

THE TIMES

No 62,227

TUESDAY AUGUST 27 1985

23p

THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

Bram's battle
Has Birmingham any realistic chance of hosting the Olympics?
Race relations
Why white foster parents can find themselves blacked
Real Lives
Peter Kellner explains why Labour should be backing Britain
Court report
Rex Bellamy on Boris Becker's hopes in the US Tennis Open

Portfolio

There is £2,000 to be won in today's Portfolio competition. Portfolio list, page 20. How to play, Information Service, back page.

Decline in cancer research

The ability of British Scientists to contribute to cancer research and treatment has declined at a horrifying rate in the past year the British Association for the Advancement of Science was told.

The British Medical Association has called on the Government to take immediate steps towards banning all tobacco advertising.

British Association, page 4
British Medical Association, page 3

IRA apologizes for murder

The IRA apologized for the "tragic killing" of Mr Kieran Murray, aged 28, who was shot dead in an ambush. Mr Murray had worked for Sinn Féin.

Royal visitors

The Prince and Princess of Wales are to visit nine survivors of the Manchester airport crash at two hospitals in the city today.

Troops move in

Khmer Rouge guerrillas claim that Vietnam has moved about 3,500 fresh troops into Cambodia. Some will be sent to the Thai-Cambodian border.

Monetarist quits

Senior Francisco Dornelles, a monetarist, resigned as Brazil's Finance Minister in response to the dismissal of his ministry's top official, Senhor Sebastião Marcos Vital.

Balloonists safe

Three Dutch transatlantic balloonists were picked up from the sea 900 miles off Land's End by the Panamanian container ship Evergreen.

Charity rescue

Bristol lifeguards taking part in a charity "bed-push" rescued a man lying unconscious in undergrowth at the side of the Weymouth-Dorchester road, near Ridgeway, Dorset.

Glider escape

Mr Philip Hepinstall, aged 30, of Brinkworth Lodge, Alvington, Yorkshire, escaped with cuts and bruises yesterday after his glider clipped a tree and crash-landed at Enstone airfield, Oxfordshire.

Leader page, 11

Letters: On Ulster, from Brigadier W. M. T. Magan; Japan and US, from R. P. Dore. Leading articles: Miners, Ireland, Cambodia.

Features, pages 8-10
A new face in Downing Street: nuclear proliferation dangers; Miles Kingston goes to court; Spectrum: the fight against heart disease; Fashion: spectacle spectacles.

Computer Horizons, pages 14, 15
Renting before you buy; Automation cutting out cheap labour; Optical discs by 1987; Police computerize for major incidents.

Obituary, page 12
Air Vice-Marshal P. E. Maitland, Morrie Ryskind. Classified, pages 14-18, 25-26
Computer appointments; Legal appointments.

US ready to halt sharing of Star Wars information

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The West German spy scandal has so shaken America's confidence in Western Europe's ability to protect sensitive allied information that it is certain to lead to a clampdown on sharing top secret data about President Reagan's multi-billion dollar Star Wars programme.

The US State Department has started urgent talks with the West German Government to assess damage to mutual security interests. A delegation from the West German Government will visit Washington next month to discuss cooperation in the Star Wars research project, and to try to restore American confidence in security arrangements.

But US officials are likely to make it clear in forthright terms that it is alarmed at the depth of the scandal and its serious implications for US-European collaboration in areas of great sensitivity.

Heads of the Strategic Defence Initiative Organization (SDIO) in Washington, which coordinates the Star Wars project, are urgently studying the political and security implications of the crisis. Government security agencies are being consulted as part of the evaluation. An Administration source, referring specifically to West Germany, said: "We are concerned about letting them have classified information."

The affair has reinforced the Reagan Administration's private belief that some of the NATO allies cannot be relied on to protect top secret material. The greatest confidence is in Britain, which sent another

Tutu's son arrested after court fracas

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Mr Trevor Tutu, eldest son of Bishop Desmond Tutu, the black Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, was arrested yesterday after commenting in court about the age of a Soviet child arrested during a school boycott.

Mr Tutu, who was in the public area, said loudly: "What a shame it is for such a young boy to be arrested. This is a joke."

He was taken to the prosecutor's office, where he was warned not to pass comments in court and told to leave the premises. On his way out there was an exchange between Mr Tutu and his police escort and he was arrested. He was charged with criminal insult, as people outside the building shouted: "Charge him, if you have anything to charge him with."

Mr Tutu was taken to Morija police station and his lawyer, Mr Richard Spoor, was called. Mr Spoor said the charge had been dropped and Mr Tutu was being detained under state-of-emergency powers which give police authority to hold people without charge or access to lawyers for 14 days or longer.

The Bishop, winner of last year's Nobel Peace Prize, said the incident made him feel proud (AP reports).

Guards ignore unofficial strike call, BR says

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Most guards and drivers ignored an unofficial strike on British Rail's Eastern Region yesterday, according to management. It had been called as a protest against the dismissal of 32 guards at Immingham.

Some BR executives hoped last night that the reluctance to walk out might be an expression of many workers' refusal to stop work whatever the outcome of a national ballot on industrial action. The result will be announced tomorrow.

The National Union of Railwaymen argued yesterday that most of its members would be holding fire until the result of the official poll is known. The union predicted a majority for

action of about seven to one, similar to that in favour of a political fund.

The dispute centres on the board's determination to introduce driver-only trains on routes throughout the network. British Rail said that between 75 and 80 per cent of those rostered for duty at Doncaster turned up for work yesterday and there were only "odd" cancellations on the King's Cross to Doncaster service.

The "outer suburban" services operating from King's Cross, London, beyond Welwyn Garden City were harder hit than usual by the action yesterday because of the Bank Holiday.

The defect had been corrected during the three-hour operation. The valve had been damaged to the hospital several weeks earlier, but the staff were unable to say who the donor was or how it had been preserved. However, they said, it was likely to have been from a child's heart.

Miss Roxana McKay, the consultant cardiologist who led the team of nine people during the operation on Saturday, said Christopher Garlick was born with a hole in the heart and a valve missing. That could have resulted in the lung arteries swelling and impeding breathing.

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Miss McKay said it was a fairly rare operation and only the second of its kind she had performed during her three years at Liverpool.

The baby was born at St James' Hospital, Leeds, where doctors diagnosed his serious cardiac defect.

When his condition began to deteriorate rapidly they arranged a transfer to the Liverpool hospital which was functioning as a back-up for the Leeds unit while the resident consultant was on leave.

The baby's father, Mr Christopher Garlick, aged 26, who is unemployed, and his mother, Sharon, aged 23, have been keeping watch by his bedside since the operation.

"The doctors have said Christopher is doing better than expected. He's obviously a fighter," Mrs Garlick said.

"I felt dreadful when I was told of Christopher's condition. I kept blaming myself in the hospital in Leeds. I feel much better now that the operation has been a success."

"The medical staff have done a marvellous job. We can't praise them enough. I am very optimistic about Christopher's future now."

Mr Garlick said: "Everything has gone very well so far. Now we will have to keep our fingers crossed. The last few days have been a nightmare."

The parents have been told that if all goes well their son could be home by Christmas.

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Unions need factory campaigning rights, says Willis



Mr Willis wants changes to ballot law

By Donald Macintyre

Unions are learning to live with, and even gaining confidence from, some balloting provisions of the Government's trade union legislation, Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, has said in an interview with *The Times*.

But he suggested that compulsory union ballots should be underpinned by new rights to campaign on the factory floor and to restrain employers from imposing arbitrary changes while the democratic process is under way.

Proposed new rights to hold workplace meetings and distribute literature could form part of the "positive framework of law" which TUC and Labour Party leaders now see as replacing the present Government's trade union legislation.

They will be discussed as part of the joint review with the Labour Party of the laws which the TUC Congress is expected to commit itself in Blackpool next week.

The interest of some senior union leaders, including Mr Willis, in

legislation which would restrain employers as well as unions from taking precipitate action in the run-up to a ballot is likely to be sharpened by the case of the present British Rail dispute with the guards.

British Rail continued dismissing guards over the issue of the National Union of Railwaymen called a ballot in conformity with the Trades Union Act, 1984.

Mr Willis's implicit recognition that ballots are likely to remain a feature of legislation under a Labour government comes after the clearest of hints from Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, last month, that he would restore key balloting provisions of the 1984 Act if Labour returns to power.

Mr Willis cited the example of the political fund ballots prescribed under the 1984 Act, all of which have so far recorded big majorities in favour of retaining the funds.

He said they had given unions a new confidence.

But using the analogy of parliamentary and municipal polls, Mr

Willis said: "Something else happens in elections other than voting itself."

"In general or local elections campaigning facilities are made available as of right. No school, for example, can refuse to accept a booking from a parliamentary candidate. So should not unions have facilities for the participation of their members? Perhaps, rather than accepting government money for postal ballots, unions could have freepost."

Historically, during elections, governments had taken very few important decisions. "If we are going to have a neo-parliamentary system of voting in the industrial environment, perhaps we should say that employers also should not carry out a change while a ballot is going on."

On what the TUC sees as the need for workers to have a greater say in the running of their companies, another issue likely to be covered in the discussion between Labour and TUC leaders during the next year on "positive rights" at work, Mr Willis said: "Trade unionists should be

critical of their employers. I am critical of my employers' sometimes and they are 10 million trade unionists."

"I want to see trade unionists pushing their ideas forward. Most want the underlying work for to be successful. That's something to do with keeping their jobs, of course, but it also flows from a certain kind of pride. Who wants to watch a football team that loses every year?"

Mr Willis made clear in the interview in his office at Congress House in London that wages under a future Labour administration should be on the agenda of the TUC-Labour Party liaison committee during the next year.

That is likely to involve discussion of an accord aimed at preventing a wages explosion sabotaging Labour's election promise to create a million jobs in the first two years after coming to office.

Mr Willis said: "There is a question of priorities which I believe we are going to have to argue about. The problem is how you show people

that if you put a lower priority on one thing it will mean that we are going to produce real action on unemployment."

Although Mr Willis predicts the return of a Labour government, he warned unions that the TUC has to deal "with any government, - Tory, Labour, or Marxist."

He added: "My guess is that there will be a Labour government, but the real question is whether it has a majority of nine or forty. With a majority of nine, it's vulnerable to by-elections. If it has a majority of forty it can govern for five years."

Mr Willis is expected to emphasize in Blackpool next week, and again and again beyond that, his theme that individual unions and the TUC must be genuinely representative of their ordinary members.

Of his role as general secretary, he said: "All you've got to get is a credibility based on some feeling about being representative. After that it's hypnosis or whatever. That's all you've got and it's rather difficult to get right."

Fred treats himself to a meal and 7 days' jail

Fred Reed, a tramp, decided that a good meal at the Minstrel's Restaurant in Bournemouth, Dorset, was the ideal Bank holiday weekend treat.

He chose a good table and ordered a large rump steak with all the trimmings, followed by four lagers and six whiskies.

Then, relaxing with a cigar and a glass of brandy, Reed, aged 61, asked the restaurant owner if he had a telephone.

"Yes" was the reply. "You had better call the police then because I can't pay the bill," Reed said.

The story of Reed's meal was told while the change was being made by Police Inspector Tony Baldwin at a special magistrates' court hearing in the town. The tramp was jailed for a week after pleading guilty to theft.

Duffy warns TUC of split if union is expelled

By Barrie Clement

Mr Terry Duffy, right-wing leader of the million-strong Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, yesterday urged the TUC to postpone a decision on the expulsion of his union or face a split which could prove disastrous to the Labour Party's chances of the next election.

Mr Duffy attempted to smooth the way to a compromise over the union's decision to take £1.2 million in government money for ballots in contravention of TUC policy.

He promised that a fresh ballot on taking further cash, planned for October, would be followed by a meeting of the union's powerful national committee and, if necessary, further consultations with the TUC. Only then would a final decision be taken on the extra state funding, Mr Duffy said.

In theory the national committee, which called for the new referendum on the subject, as the power to overrule a "yes" vote, although in practice this would be unlikely.

A senior delegation from the AUEW - Mr Duffy will be absent because of ill-health - is scheduled to meet the general council of the TUC tomorrow in Blackpool. The labour movement's leaders, who last week decided the engineers may have been guilty of acting in a "way detrimental to the interests of the trade union movement", are to hear the AUEW's case.

Mr Duffy's message to his colleagues in the TUC yesterday, was coupled with a strong reaffirmation that his members' wishes should remain pre-eminent over those of the TUC.

"I honestly believe that the membership of any union must determine its policy. No union can allow its policy to be determined by the TUC. My members have voted by 12 to one to accept the £1.2 million already received under the Employment Act 1980 and that decision is irrevocable, he said.

In a warning to the rest of the movement, Mr Duffy said that trade unionists would be the only interest group to suffer if the AUEW was suspended or expelled from the TUC. He added: "It would deprive the Labour Party of our financial contributions and it would be disastrous for their chances of winning the next election."

Mr Duffy is aware that a postponement on any decision on the engineers' future would also allow the TUC to start its reassessment of outright opposition to all Conservative Government labour legislation. Such a fresh look is foreshadowed in a composite motion to be put before the Congress next week and is almost certain to lead to a more liberal attitude.

Dunlop unions call ballot on strike action

Ten unions will ballot their 7,000 members next week on strike action at Dunlop plants throughout Britain.

The threat comes after a decision by the company's new owners, British Tyre and Rubber, who won a takeover battle in March, to end a redundancy agreement.

The ballot will take place between September 2 and 11 and will cover workers at key factories in Yorkshire, the North-east, South Wales, Lancashire and the Midlands. A strike would affect the manufacture of industrial hose, engineering, footwear, sports and leisure equipment, aeroplanes and Dunlop's chemical division. Mr David Warburton, secretary of the BTR Group joint unions and national officer of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, said: "BTR have refused to negotiate on their decision to tear up our redundancy agreement."

"They are riding roughshod over agreements and long-established procedures and we have been left with no alternative but to put the facts to our members and call for strike action. We will not accept BTR's bully-boys tactics."

IRA murder victim worked for Sinn Fein

From Tim Jones, Belfast

As another victim of a building contractor they had targeted, Provisional IRA "mistake" was buried yesterday, his killers disclosed that the dead man, Mr Kieran Murray, aged 28, had worked for Sinn Fein, the political wing of their illegal organization, during the local election campaign.

As his father collapsed at the funeral in Pomeroy, co Tyrone, the IRA admitted responsibility for the "tragic killing", passed on condolences to his family and said there would be an internal investigation into their blunder.

The admission of Mr Murray's involvement with Sinn Fein, which believes in the "ballot box in one hand, the armalite in the other" approach to politics, is embarrassing to the IRA which sets itself up as the defender of the nationalist people.

Mr Murray was killed by gunmen who were lying in ambush in the grounds of a cemetery. They confused the car in which he was travelling with a similar vehicle owned by a member of the security forces who used the same route regularly.

According to an IRA statement, the mistake occurred because for 30 seconds they lost sight of the security man's car which they had been trailing from a local police barracks. When they picked up the trail again they did not realize they were following the wrong vehicle.

There is no suggestion that Mr Murray, a popular man locally, was involved with any terrorist organization. Sinn Fein, which operates openly in Northern Ireland, is not a proscribed organization.

At the funeral Father Brendan O'Neill said the young farm labourer had a great influence on people around him and brought joy and pleasure wherever he went. "He would never harm anyone in his company".

Police said that the weapon used to murder Mr Murray was a high-powered Soviet Kalashnikov AK47 assault rifle used in an attack on a police mobile patrol earlier this year.

Last week, the IRA killed another man in error when they shot Mr Daniel Mallon in the face after mistaking him for a

leader of the IRA.

Leading article, letters, page 11

Ministry decision may harm exports, CBI says

By Derek Harris

Exporting by small and medium-size companies could be damaged by a recent switch in government policy, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday.

The problem concerns the exchange risk guarantee scheme which provides cover for exchange rate fluctuations affecting loans from the European Investment Bank (EIB) to British companies. Last month, the Department of Trade and Industry withdrew cover for the low-interest loans.

That puts smaller companies at a competitive disadvantage compared with their international trading rivals, according to the CBI. The situation is made worse by unnecessarily high interest rates in Britain, the CBI added; it also renewed its appeal for rates to come down.

The two factors were making it more difficult for British firms to win a larger share of world markets, Mr Kenneth Edwards, deputy director general of the CBI, said.

In a letter to Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Industry, Mr Edwards said the changes would weaken the loans system, effectively denying smaller companies access to the European money.

James Maley, aged 77, charged with an offence under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, was released on bail pending trial when he appeared before Hamilton Sheriff's Court yesterday.

Mr Maley, of Elmsmere Street, Possilpark, Glasgow, was accused of a breach of the peace by repeatedly thrusting documents entitled Ireland's War at the public and attempting to sell them to their alarm and annoyance, or alternatively a contravention of section 21B of the Prevention of Terrorism Act alleging he carried or displayed such documents to arouse reasonable suspicion that he was a member or supporter of the IRA in Cardiff, Lanarkshire, on Saturday.

He elected to go for trial, set for February 17 next.

Leading article, letters, page 11



Three workers putting the finishing touches to the medieval coats of arms in the roof of Canterbury Cathedral's Great Cloister. Lucy Medhurst, Thomas Organ and Carol Davis-Poynter are involved in a restoration programme which includes cleaning, painting and regilding some eight hundred heraldic shields in the fourteenth century roof. (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Britain heads for sole lead in chess match

After six rounds of the Lloyds Bank Masters' chess tournament, three British players and two Russians are sharing the lead with five points from six games. A fourth British player, Grandmaster Murray Chandler, has adjourned against Peter Wells, a pawn ahead. If he can convert this advantage to a win he will take the sole lead with 5½ points.

International Master Julian Hodgson was held to a draw by Grandmaster John Nunn. The world number three, Alexander Beliavsky, outplayed the Australian junior, D. McFarlane, while Soviet compatriot Maya Chiburdanidze, the women's world champion, crushed Indian International Master, D. Bawa, with a king side mating attack.

James Howell, aged 18, from Harrogate, won convincingly against the Dutch player, B. Carlier.

Leading scores: Nunn, Hodgson, Howell (England) Beliavsky and Chiburdanidze 5; Chandler, Wells (England) 4½ with one adjourned.

Mr Robert Maxwell yesterday took another big step away from dependency on his Holborn Circus site in central London with the announcement that he is to buy Thomson Withy Grove, the Manchester printers.

Contracts were exchanged on Friday between British Newspaper Printing Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the British Printing and Communications Corporation, of which Mr Maxwell is chairman, and the International Thomson Organisation.

The contract provides for BNPC to take over Thomson Withy Grove from January 1, "subject only to BNPC and the print unions reaching agreement by September 23 on manning levels and the terms of the payment", the company said in a statement.

Meanwhile, there seemed little prospect of an early end to the dispute over Mr Maxwell's plans to transfer printing of the *Sporting Life* away from Fleet Street, which on Friday led to suspend publication of *Mirror*

Maxwell buys printing centre in Manchester

By Tony Samstag

Group newspapers (except for the *Daily Record* and *Sunday Mail* in Scotland).

The dispute with the National Graphical Association has been interpreted as a dry run for Mr Maxwell's plans to move production of *The Mirror* from central London, and to contract out the printing of other titles to BNPC.

The *Mirror* Group has never had its own Manchester printing facilities. Northern editions of *The Mirror* and *Sunday Mirror* are printed under contract at Thomson Withy Grove, which also produces under contract the northern editions of the *News of the World* and the *Daily Telegraph*. The latter is now building its own plant in the area.

Last March, a year after it had announced that it was terminating its newspaper contract in the hope of renegotiating them on a more favourable basis, Thomson Withy Grove told the four print unions that it would lay off 876 workers, almost half its workforce, by the end of the year.

Branch said it expected that the engine would be removed and taken to British Airways' facility in Treforest, South Wales, where it would be examined.

The experts are appealing to amateur photographers who have any pictures or videotapes of the jet before or during take-off to hand them to any Manchester police station.

They can also be sent to the "Air Disaster Investigation c/o Greater Manchester Police Headquarters, Chester House, Old Trafford, Manchester".

● A People Express Boeing 737 returned to Newark International Airport, New Jersey, soon after take-off on Sunday when a panel light mistakenly indicated that there could be trouble with the engine, the airline said (Associated Press reports).

An inspection showed that there was nothing wrong with the engine; the light in the cockpit had malfunctioned.

Accident investigators at Manchester have not yet examined the wreckage in which 54 people died in an explosion and fire on Thursday.

Mr Burnside said: "I would assume this new procedure will become a regular inspection method". It would be applied to other aircraft, where relevant, and cannot underestimate the importance of engineering and safety."

Mr Burnside added, replying to criticism that safety had been compromised by commercial pressures.

The Prince and Princess will fly to Manchester airport before being driven to Wythenshawe Hospital where they will meet seven patients recovering from injuries received in the fire which burnt out the rear of the aircraft.

Later, they will be taken to Whithington Hospital near by where two survivors are in the intensive care unit with burns injuries.

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Owen calls for early Cabinet shuffle

By Anthony Bevis

Dr David Owen yesterday demanded the shuffling of firm leadership from Mrs Thatcher. In a scathing Bank holiday statement, the leader of the Social Democratic Party said that the "shaky" and "rattled" Prime Minister should stop "dithering", get on with her Cabinet shuffle and take a grip on the country's problems.

He said: "We will not see decisive action in British manufacturing, boardrooms while there is such obvious indecision among the Cabinet at Number 10. Get on with it, Mrs Thatcher. The country expects a new Cabinet now."

But Whitehall sources said last night that Mrs Thatcher, who had been "pottering about" since she had returned to Chequers from her Austrian holiday, was not expected back at Downing Street until the end of the week and speculation that she might already have started work on the ministerial reshuffle was firmly discounted.

Dr Owen said that speculation about the reshuffle was damaging. Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was "a dud" and Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, and Mr Peter Rook, Chief Secretary to the Treasury responsible for public spending, had been "written off for months".

He also said that Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, "should be a major figure" in any new Cabinet.

"There is a decision-making vacuum in Whitehall today," Dr Owen said. "Senior Civil Servants talk openly about their difficulties in getting ministers to concentrate on departmental business."

"Delegations to them, or decisions taken by them, are known to be worthless. Ministers now wait for the phone to ring from Number 10 as speculation builds up."

"Will she reshuffle before she goes to Balmoral, to upstage the TUC conference, or after Balmoral, during the SDP conference?" he asked.

Dr Owen said: "Dithering is not a characteristic normally associated with this Prime Minister. But the past four months of indecision and uncertainty emanating from Number 10 over the forthcoming reshuffle show that Mrs Thatcher is surprisingly shaky."

"The opinion poll findings are obviously rattling her. Some say that the shape of this reshuffle will tell us whether she has lost her political marbles."

He said that Britain and Norway were the only countries in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development with manufacturing output lower than 10 years ago. Under Mrs Thatcher, manufacturing industry had shed 1.5 million jobs and output was nearly 9 per cent below pre-recession levels. A firm government lead was required.

"Tomorrow, the holiday period is over," Dr Owen said. The Prime Minister should take a grip on her Government's problems, with action this day, and announce her new Cabinet."

Rebecca Lawrence, aged 11, whose sister Ruth, aged 14, recently gained a mathematics degree at Oxford University, has passed her O-level mathematics at grade A five years early. The girl, who lives in Birkby Hall Road, Huddersfield, will take A-level mathematics at Chetham's School of Music, Manchester.

Bright sister

Part of the centre of York was sealed off yesterday after a gas leak was discovered in the basement of an empty shop in Stonegate, which was packed with tourists. A police spokesman said the gas was like an unexploded time bomb. "Half the street could have been blown up any minute," he said.

Steven Stuart Willis, aged 20, a builder's labourer of no fixed address, was remanded in custody for eight days, by Torquay magistrates yesterday, accused of murdering Angelique Quinton, aged 19, of Andover, Hampshire.

Murder charge

Two soldiers will appear in court at Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, tomorrow charged in connection with an incident involving a smoke grenade at The Greedy Grape Hotel in Moreton-in-Marsh on Sunday.

Soldiers charged

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$20, Canada \$12, Europe £10, India \$15, Japan \$15, New Zealand \$15, Pakistan \$15, Singapore \$15, South Africa \$15, USA \$15, West Indies \$15.

The Ashworth family, David, Kathleen and sons Christopher (left) and Dominic, who survived the Boeing 737 fire, leaving yesterday for Manchester airport to begin their Corfu holiday and conquer any fear of flying (Photograph: Mike Arzon).

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BMA demands immediate steps towards ban on all tobacco advertising

By Tony Samstag

The British Medical Association today calls on the Government to take immediate steps towards banning all tobacco advertising and promotion and recommends sanctions, such as heavy fines, for companies offending against their voluntary code of practice.

In a letter to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, Dr John Marks, BMA chairman, writes: "More than 270 people die prematurely each day from the effects of smoking tobacco. At some time government will surely act to prevent the advertising and promotion of the product that is responsible. We would like to see this Government take that step."

The letter is timed to coincide with negotiations between the Department of Health and Social Security and the tobacco industry on a new voluntary code of practice. The present code, agreed in January 1983, expires at the end of this year.

Dr Marks argues that the new code should not only prepare the way for phasing out and eventually outlawing all tobacco advertisements and promotional events, but should also take a much harder line on health warnings and sales to the young.

Any new code should specifically require advertising to be aimed solely at adults, and promotional activities in which cigarettes are given away should be stopped.

Tobacco firms should also be made "more accountable" for the way they sell their products, Dr Marks continues.

"We recommend that the current negotiations should include the determination of adequate sanctions to act as a

deterrent to individual companies. Such sanctions would probably take the form of 'massive fines', the BMA added yesterday.

Accountability, as the BMA defines it, would also mean that manufacturers accepted that they were responsible for what they sell. Health warnings on cigarette packets would therefore come from the companies directly and not, as now, from the Government.

Ministry 'right about gum'

By Robin Young

Nicotine chewing gum can help smokers to give up smoking, but it is right that it should not be a prescribable drug, according to the latest issue of *Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin*, which is published for doctors by the Consumers' Association.

The gum was introduced in Britain as a prescription drug five years ago, but was included in the recent blacklist of preparations that the Government is no longer willing to have prescribed at the health service's expense.

The *Bulletin* says that, although the gum can help those who are determined to give up smoking, its value in general practice remains in doubt.

It is cheaper than even moderate smoking, with two weeks supply of 1052mg pieces costing £7.50 compared with the £18 a smoker would spend in the same period on 20 cigarettes a day.

Instead of the present wording: "Danger: Government health warning: Cigarettes can seriously damage your health" the BMA would like to see a more emphatic statement, such as: "Smoking these (brand name) cigarettes may cause cancer and other diseases such as chronic bronchitis".

"We would like to see cigarette packets carrying a statement from the manufacturer indicating the damage that may be caused to the smoker and confirming that the manufacturer accepts responsibility for the product in the same way as any other company making and selling goods to the public", Dr Marks writes.

Future health warning should also be put on the front or back of the packet instead of the sides, as at present, and the wording should be changed at frequent but irregular intervals to indicate all the health risks involved in smoking.

The BMA is particularly concerned about the number of young people still taking up smoking in spite of the known hazards.

Noting that in 1982 children aged 11 to 16 spent about £60 million on smoking, Dr Marks says that "no product which may appeal to the young (holidays, leisure or sports) should be allowed to carry a tobacco brand name."

"Arguments that the consumer makes a free choice of whether to smoke or not are irrelevant both in terms of consumer legislation and, more importantly, because nicotine is a highly addictive drug which the majority of people find extremely difficult to stop using."



Roni Korsh and Meghan Doyle trying out a routine from the repertoire of Waves, an American break-jazz dance company which appears at the Royal Festival Hall from today until September 7 (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Veal calves 'still reared in crates'

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

More than 10,000 veal calves are still reared in crates in Britain each year, according to the annual welfare pressure group, Compassion in World Farming (CWF).

Proposals for legislation to prohibit the tethering of calves in confined spaces have until now been rejected on the grounds that the practice is largely discontinued.

The so-called loose housing system, in which the animals are free to move around in straw covered yards instead of in crates, has been shown to be just as effective as well as more humane.

CWF recently lost a High Court action against a priory in Storrington, Sussex, which owns a farm where calves are reared for export to the Continent. Because of the cost of the action, it has now decided to apply for charitable status under the name of the *Alpine Fund*.

Although regarded as a moderate organisation, its latest newsletter, *see photographs taken by activists from the South East Animal Liberation League who invaded a farm at Lamberhurst, Kent, implying that it is prepared to align itself with more militant tactics.*

Animal activists attack guard

Animal activists attacked a security guard who tried to stop them breaking into a Sussex breeding farm early on Sunday.

A police spokesman said the guard, Mr Brian Bailey, had tackled the raiders as they climbed a fence at Shamrock Farm, Frant, Sussex, near Tunbridge Wells.

Mr Bailey was released from hospital after treatment for severe bruising and shock.

The spokesman said five raiders were attempting to break into a section of the farm where guinea-pigs are bred, but they were unable to do any damage or release any of the animals.

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) has claimed responsibility for the attack on the farm, which was also raided earlier this year.

The Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for an attack on two Sheffield stores in a protest against the sale of furs.

Travellers unsure of duty-free rules

More than a third of airline passengers are unsure about duty-free allowances, a survey by the British Airports Authority disclosed yesterday.

The survey, which interviewed passengers at Heathrow, London, the world's busiest international airport, and two other main airports, Gatwick and Glasgow, found that 37 per cent of the estimate 1.13 million passengers who flew out of Britain on Bank holiday weekend, would have had no idea of their latest duty-free allowances.

Even experienced travellers stumbled on the amounts of tobacco and wine allowed into Britain.

Of those who had flown more than 10 times during the past year, nearly a third were unsure about their duty-free allowances, the survey of 1,986 passengers, conducted by Nielsen Consumer Research, found.

The survey found that, compared with ordinary shops, average savings on main duty-free liquor and tobacco lines are almost half. But more than two thirds of passengers buying liquor and tobacco either did not know that or thought their savings were much less.

The most common purchase was liquor (58 per cent) followed by cigarettes and tobacco (47 per cent), perfume (30 per cent) and other gifts (19 per cent).

In May this year, new customs and excise regulations were introduced, allowing people carrying a litre of duty-

Electronic health check on climbers

Three British climbers who are about to tackle an unclimbed peak in the Himalayas have had electronic devices fitted to their skulls as part of a medical experiment.

The three men, all experienced climbers, have had tiny "telemetric" buttons inserted in their heads by doctors at Frenchay Hospital, Bristol.

The devices will be used to check on changing pressures in the climbers' brains during their expedition up the 21,000ft Hagshe peak. The buttons will be connected by wires to monitors.

It is all part of a research programme to discover the causes of acute mountain sickness or high altitude sickness.

The three men are Mr Michael Prosser, the expedition leader, of Caerleon, Gwent; Mr Duncan Massey, of Bristol; and Dr Brian Cummins, a neurosurgeon in charge of the research project, of Bristol.

They are among an eight-man team who flew to India earlier this month. They are to begin their climb in the next 10 days.

Dr Cummins's wife, Anna, speaking from her home in Hambrook Lane, Hambrook, Bristol, said: "The team have been at base camp for about a week."

"It is the first time this kind of medical research has been carried out using telemetric buttons. It is also the first time anyone has tried to climb this particular mountain."

Forgery hunt

Detectives are searching for two youths aged between 14 and 18 who have been using forged identity cards around Stamford, Lincolnshire, to collect money for victims of the famine in Ethiopia.

Home Office accused of wrecking castle

Archaeologists yesterday clashed with the Government over claims that Home Office contractors redeveloping a prison "wantonly" destroyed the remains of a medieval castle.

They say the site of Gloucester Castle, including significant remains of King Henry III's royal apartments, was wrecked as modernization work was completed on the town's prison.

The prison is constructed on the site of the castle, but the original foundations of the fortress, including floors and walls, remained almost intact. Archaeologists consider the site of great importance.

The Home Office consulted Gloucester City Council in November 1982 and was asked to work in consultation with local archaeological groups.

Mr Keith Annis, planning chairman, said yesterday: "We told them of the importance of the site but we were ignored even though the site was declared a scheduled monument."

Mr Patrick Garrod, the city museum's chief excavations officer, said: "We have lost the golden opportunity to discover what was down there and to understand it. It is horrendous, destruction on this scale is wanton."

"I only discovered what was happening by chance. I was walking past the site and I saw 70 trenches being dug into the medieval walls."

Since the work began in March Mr Garrod has tried to keep a skeleton record of what has been uncovered.

The castle dates from 1162. In the thirteenth century Henry III was crowned there.

In the eighteenth century the castle was a dirty and disused prison with unsegregated prisoners.

It was demolished and replaced by a new model prison, parts of which are still used today.

The Home Office said last night: "We have not received any complaints. We had planning permission and to suggest that the Home Office are vandals is nonsense."

Drug charge Gurkhas are remanded

Six members of the Gurkha Rifles were remanded in custody until Thursday when they appeared before Uxbridge magistrates in west London yesterday charged with drug smuggling at Heathrow Airport.

The six are stationed at Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Aldershot, Hampshire. Purna Gurung, aged 32, was charged with being knowingly concerned in an attempt to evade the prohibition on the import of heroin valued at an estimated £100,000.

All six defendants were charged that last Friday they were knowingly concerned in attempt to evade the prohibition on the importation of a quantity of cannabis resin valued at between £8,000 and £10,000.

The others accused are Debendrakumar Gurung, aged 24; Pratinad Gurung, aged 25; Reshanababur Gurung, aged 31; Rai Haure Gurung, aged 22; and Shreshtha Madankumar, aged 22.

Shooting of boy Labour seeks police gun inquiry

A police raid on a home in Birmingham that culminated in the shooting of John Short, a 15-year-old boy, has caused a tide of public reaction against the West Midlands police force, according to Miss Clare Short, Labour MP for Birmingham, Ladywood.

A gang of 30 youths armed with iron bars punched unconscious a woman police constable when they entered the death of the boy flared into violence outside a public house in the Warstock area the local public house of the boy's father.

Woman police constable Tracey Hughes, aged 22, was attacked as she attempted to make an arrest. She was taken to Birmingham Accident Hospital with a suspected fractured skull, but was released yesterday.

News of the boy's death did not reach his father, also named John, aged 26, until 11 hours after his death. The boy was shot 10 minutes after his father was arrested.

Mr Alfred Dubs, Labour spokesman on home affairs, has called on the Home Office to carry out an exhaustive review into the way the police use guns, with particular emphasis given to the West Midlands.

"The West Midlands police and the Metropolitan Police have the worst track records for handling firearms and the Government must re-examine the training of officers. Police should be trained in the handling of weapons in situations of stress," he said.

Miss Short said her impression from talking to people in the city was that they were most unhappy with the record of West Midlands police force's handling of firearms during the past five years.

"Something must be done. The police here are getting a reputation for being trigger happy. There should be a full public inquiry into the conduct



Mr Beaumont-Dark and Miss Short, who have clashed over an inquiry.

of the whole use of firearms in the city following the incidents over the past five years. We must get to the bottom of not just John's death, but a whole host of other incidents which have been inadequately dealt with in the past," she said.

In 1980 West Midlands became the focus of attention when Gail Kinchin, a pregnant girl aged 16, was killed by four police bullets. She was being used as a human shield from police by her armed former boyfriend, David Page, aged 31. He was sentenced to 12 years for manslaughter.

The officers involved were exonerated by an internal inquiry, and Sir Philip Knights, then chief constable of West Midlands, said there was no force in the land that handled such matters better than his.

In the Winslow Green area of Birmingham in 1982 police accidentally fired a shot into the bed of a sleeping child while investigating armed robberies in the town. They had entered the wrong house. No one was hurt.

In 1983 Mr Dennis Elcock, a pensioner, and his wife Rosa were raided by Armed Police at their home in Dudley. Police believed their car had been used in two robberies in North

Auto crime: 2

£5 lock that could help to beat the car thief

In spite of the size of the problem of car theft in Britain, offences do not arouse general public indignation.

"Violence is not usually involved in car theft, the main consequence is often a little inconvenience, and insurance companies foot the bill."

But this autumn the Home Office begins a campaign to change that public attitude with a crime prevention conference featuring auto crime. A key ingredient will be a report now being completed by researchers at the Institute of Consumer Ergonomics, Loughborough University, on the design for a crime-free car.

Although the report is still confidential the Home Office last week revealed a key finding. The chrome trim on the sides of motor cars is not necessary, because most of the material for building better security into vehicles is already available.

The sort of better security and design that could be used is outlined by experts such as Det Chief Supt Tony Poole and his deputy, Det Supt Gerry Pope at Scotland Yard's stolen car squad.

Is it possible to design cars which can foil the thief? In the second of two articles, *STE-WART TENDLER*, Crime Reporter, looks at what is being done to reduce the multi-million pound losses in cars and property. He assesses how the car has become an open invitation to thieves and reports on a new lock costing £5 that can offer better security.

Mr Pope, who has toured all the big German manufacturers and sits on a Home Office working party on car theft, would like to see better locks on the outside of a car.

Other police suggestions are: There should be no door buttons and windows and door designs should be changed.

The chrome trim on the sides should also be abandoned as the holes underneath can be used to reach locks once the trim is removed.

Quarter-lights should be abandoned, as they are usually the prime target for thieves breaking into a car. At present only windcreens are made of laminated glass which does not shatter.

All side windows could be made of laminated glass,



provided safety regulations were covered. Rear windows should be made more secure.

If a car includes a central locking system it should not be too easily affected by bumps or electrical shorting.

Electric windows are a good security measure in principle but they should not operate when the car is locked or be at risk to shorting.

In the car, ignition locks could be positioned on the steering column so they cannot be lifted out. They could be placed facing along the column towards the steering wheel.

Some cars need improved steering column locks. One manufacturer, which the police

will not name, has a lock which will not operate in two positions rather than the usual half a dozen.

If the police suggestions, which are likely to be reflected in the institute report, are so simple why have they not been implemented? It seems the public are not sufficiently security conscious to make the manufacturers act.

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders told *The Times*: "It would be possible to put better locks on doors but the general public are not willing to pay the extra amount. The sales of a vehicle are affected more by go-faster stripes on the side than a better

lock or some safety features". Better locks could be provided for less than £5 per car but there would be considerable costs to the manufacturer in making changes on the production line.

Was the society being too complacent? Should the car industry take a responsible lead and start putting on better locks? The spokesman said auto crime was a serious crime "but at the same time this is unfortunately an international competitive business we are in".

But one manufacturer has gone ahead with a new lock. Ford has introduced a new Chubb lock on its new Granada model after market research showed that potential customers at the top end of their range wanted better locks.

The lock, known as the Caps lock, works on the basis of sliding discs rather than the traditional springs and tumblers. It has been welcomed by the police.

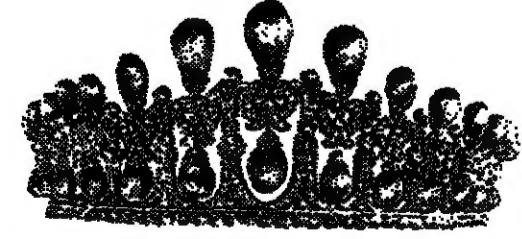
When a group of locksmiths were let loose on the lock three could not beat it and the two who could took 45 minutes and 75 minutes respectively.

Concluded.

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Judge may seek extradition of football fans

Judge Coppeliers St Wallant the Belgian judge who is investigating the deaths of 39 people at the European Cup football final at Heysel stadium in Brussels on May 29, left for Britain yesterday amid speculation that her visit would lead to a request to extradite suspect riot leaders to Belgium.

Her office would not comment on her schedule, but the Belgian state radio said she would meet British Home Office officials and police in Liverpool.

Film of crowd rioting at the game allowed photographs of suspects to be circulated widely in the British Press. About 26 people, mainly from the Liverpool area, have been identified.

The deaths, mostly of Italians, occurred when a wall collapsed after sections of the crowd stampeded to get away from scores of Liverpool supporters charging into terracing occupied mainly by Juventus fans. The Heysel stadium has become an unofficial tourist attraction. Police say stadium authorities call them every two or three days to ask thousands of visitors to move on.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION • Presidential address

British scientists' ability to help cancer study 'in horrifying decline'

From Pearce Wright, Science Editor, Glasgow

The ability of British scientists to contribute to research into and treatment of cancer and other illnesses had declined at a horrifying rate in the past year, Sir Hans Kornberg, Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, told the British Association for the Advancement of Science last night.

He said the decline was projected to continue and the only way to halt the trend was by a reversal of government policy of cuts in the science budget.

In one of the most passionate addresses for many years by the retiring president to the annual meeting of the association, Sir Hans said it was not a case of retaining British scientists at the forefront of international research; rather, it was a matter of stopping decline.

Research community morale is low

Sir Hans, a Fellow of the Royal Society and an eminent international biochemist, was speaking at the opening ceremony of this year's meeting at Strathclyde University, Glasgow.

He said: "The morale of the research community is lower now than it has ever been in my experience. As president, I have a duty publicly to voice my concern and to support those who are attempting to reverse these trends."

He emphasized that there was an urgent need to facilitate the transfer of scientific results to "useful ends". But, he added: "One can only put science to use if there is a science to be put to use."

Sir Hans made clear that he echoed anxieties that he found in visiting research groups throughout the year as president of the association. He said: "I was looking forward to being able to give an account of major advances in science or its

application that have occurred recently in many fields."

In particular, he had intended to talk about advances in genetics, a field in which he worked, where hopes were raised that understanding might soon be followed by new treatments.

The insight that should open the way for new therapies was almost entirely from the work of academic virologists, geneticists and cell biologists, many of whom were active in Britain.

"In the event," he said, "I chose not to give that talk."

In addition to addressing

government scientific advisers at the meeting, he was also encouraging young scientists yet to embark on a career.

To them he said: "Research is like doing a crossword puzzle with half the clues missing and the other half wrongly numbered, and success in that enterprise is to see what others have seen but to be the first to notice it."

"To experience that thrill, of being the first really to know and suddenly to see a pattern where a moment ago there was only chaos, comes but rarely, but must rank among the most exquisite of joys."

Vitality of teaching in peril

He added: "If this were all that was involved in basic research, then that would place it among the other cultural activities of a civilized society but would certainly not justify any preferential treatment from the public purse."

"As an academic teacher of biochemistry I am certainly in no doubt about my own need to engage in research. We teach what we deduce from our experiments; if we do not experiment, our teaching will become stale."

"We cannot base our teaching solely on the researches of other scientists in other countries. Although knowledge is common good, it is rapidly transferred only between those who are actively engaged in its creation."

"To deny scientists the opportunity to advance knowledge through research, or even so to restrict them that they may taxi along the runway but never become airborne, will destroy the vitality of science teaching."

He recognized that "our material wellbeing as a nation depends very largely on our ability to translate scientific discovery into products or processes that we produce, and that people will wish to buy from us rather than from competitors in other countries."

Sir Hans added: "What I do not believe is that our apparent failure to produce enough wealth by these means is because we spend too much time, talent or money on basic research and that we thereby neglect its application to useful ends."

We lead others only in defence spending

"The belief that it is only applied research and development that yield commercially useful results is one that increasingly permeates statements made by leaders of government as well as of industry; it has also changed for the worse the way the public funds are used for the support of research."

"The United Kingdom currently spends only half as much on the general promotion of knowledge as does Germany, and only eight tenths as much as France. Similarly, on the protection and improvement of human health, we spend less than Italy, much less than France and Germany, and only slightly more than Belgium and The Netherlands."

British spending lead that of other countries in only one objective defence.

He added: "It is also evident that, while other countries of the EEC and our main commercial competitors, Japan and the US, are increasing the proportion of their gross domestic product devoted to research, we are moving in the opposite direction."



Sir Hans Kornberg, who pleaded for a change in policy.

Opportunities to cut killer diseases toll

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Plans that could lead to reducing the death tolls from heart disease and cancer, Britain's two biggest killer illnesses, will be put to the British Association for the Advancement of Science at its conference this week.

The campaign to make medicine safer and the need for more research in test-tube baby techniques are among other main health topics on the agenda.

The Government's role in the prevention of illness and its latest proposals to combat AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) will be discussed today by Dr Donald Acheson, chief medical officer of the Department of Health and Social Security.

Sir Richard Doll, a British pioneer in cancer research, will also be speaking today on the new opportunities that are available for the prevention of cancer.

However, public health advice has had little impact on the death rate from heart disease internationally, and Britain is near the top of the world mortality league from the disease. Professor Michael Oliver, of Edinburgh University, later this week questions whether heart disease really is preventable.

Professor Sir Abraham Goldberg, chairman of the Committee on Safety of Medicines, will tomorrow be talking on how drug safety concerns politicians, doctors, scientists

and the community at large.

New developments in the treatment of high blood pressure and the latest techniques in heart surgery will also be discussed.

Advances in test-tube baby research have helped many hundreds of infertile couples but the research can also lead to progress in the prevention of foetal abnormalities and pregnancy loss. This subject is to be investigated on Thursday by Professor Allan Templeton, of Aberdeen University.

The conference's other main themes include debates on the safe disposal of radioactive waste, how best to put science to use and the future roles of coal and oil as key energy sources in Britain.

This year's conference is placing greater emphasis than in recent years on the importance of prevention rather than cure in public health.

That emphasis reflects the growing concern among leading medical figures about the apparent lack of impact on illness through health education and preventive medicine.

Professor John Catford, of the Institute for Health Promotion at the University of Wales College of Medicine, is to make a keynote speech today on some of the issues of life styles and health. He believes that prevention should start in childhood, and that adults must set a better example to children.

Spectrum, page 8

Edinburgh's Labour left in difficulty

City's coat of arms for warship

From Ronald Faux, Edinburgh

The controlling Labour group on Edinburgh District Council faces difficulties in its attempt to bring radical change to a city more interested at the moment in enjoying its international festival.

The latest setback for the left-wing leadership has come from its own side. A recommendation from the party's policy executive that the latest warship to carry the name HMS Edinburgh should not be allowed to display part of the city's coat of arms on its funnel has been rejected by the council's general purposes committee.

The council will not now have the embarrassing task today of explaining to the ship's captain why the city did not wish to have its emblem on a warship bearing its name. Mr Alex Wood, leader of the Labour group and the policy executive was not available for comment but the council's stand against all things military and its declaration of Edinburgh as a "nuclear-free zone" was at the heart of the opposition.

The captain and senior officers of HMS Edinburgh will be at the city chambers to

receive the ship's silver from the council. This should have been handed over to the last HMS Edinburgh, the cruiser that was sunk during the Second World War in the Barents Sea carrying some £20 million of gold bullion. The ship was handed over for active service before there was an opportunity to accept the silver and it has remained in council custody ever since.

The new HMS Edinburgh, a destroyer, is now fitting out at Rosyth.

It is understood that the policy executive's decision threatened a serious split among the Labour councillors. The left backed down, having only recently lost a prolonged wrangle with the Scottish Office over increases in the city's rates. The group voted 22-10 not to press the Government any further and having led his troops to the top of the hill, Mr Wood has been obliged to lead them down again, with threats of further confrontation.

An earlier defeat came over the Labour group's attempt to eliminate the title of Lord Provost in the city and have instead a convener.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, pointed out at the time that the office of Lord Provost was written into the city's constitution and he was not prepared to put the matter before Parliament. The council responded by locking up the city's ceremonial robes and insisting they should not be worn.

The rates battle has now been resolved by Mr Younger forcing the council to set a "legal" rate which will not have such a catastrophic impact as was threatened among the small businesses and householders.

The final strand in the council's hostility towards things as they were in a city traditionally ruled by Conservatives has been its hostile attitude to the international festival, which councillors have condemned as elitist. The change has been firmly rejected by the festival management and by the festival management for the tens of thousands of Scots and visitors from overseas who are now flocking into the city for what is acknowledged to be the most wide-ranging event of its kind in the world.



Samantha Smith, the American schoolgirl invited to Moscow two years ago by the then Soviet leader, Yuri Andropov, after writing to him about her fears of nuclear war, has died in a plane crash with her father in Maine. They were among eight people who died on a local flight from Boston to their home town. Samantha, aged 13, had flown from London only hours earlier after eight days filming in Britain for

a new television drama series called *Lame Street*. She became a celebrity after Andropov invited her to Moscow, appearing on television and being described as a "minor ambassador for peace". She is pictured at her farewell press conference in Moscow in 1983. In Moscow, the official news agency Tass reported the crash and said: "The name of Samantha Smith is well known in the USSR and around the world."

Hopes for reform run high as five-year plan is revamped

In a second article on Kremlin policy under Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, Richard Owen examines the new leader's more dynamic approach to domestic affairs.

GORBACHOV'S RUSSIA Part 2

When Mr Mikhail Gorbachev proposed Mr Andrei Gromyko for the presidency early in July, he explained that he was too busy with pressing domestic problems to be head of state as well as general secretary, as his predecessors had been.

Mr Gorbachev's packed East-West schedule this autumn shows he intends all the same to keep a high profile in foreign affairs, either directly or through his own Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze.

The fact remains that for most ordinary Russians, and certainly for aspiring party officials, Mr Gorbachev's economic plans and his continuing administrative shake-up matter as much if not more than his attempts to out-manoeuvre President Reagan on arms control.

The Soviet leader took the unprecedented step after taking power of sending back the five-year plan for redrafting, and the positions of both Mr Nikolai Baibakov, the 74-year-old head of the state planning agency (Gosplan), and Mr Nikolai Patolichev, the 77-year-old Foreign Trade Minister, are in question.

No sooner had Mr Gorbachev returned from holiday in the Crimea than he was reviewing progress on the redrafting and telling officials the coming year would seriously test their ability to carry out new ideas.

Having already installed close allies such as Mr Yegor Ligachev and Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov in the Politburo as efficiency-minded technocrats, Mr Gorbachev may well make further top-level changes, perhaps at last casting out Mr

Nikolai Tikhonov, the 80-year-old Prime Minister.

His long-term target - now not so far away - is the 27th party congress in February, when the 300-man central committee will be re-elected. A new party programme is in preparation, a "Gorbachev programme" to replace the ill-fated "Khrushchev programme" of 1961, which foolishly vowed to overtake America by 1980. The Gorbachev programme will be forward looking but realistic, Soviet sources say.

In the spring, Kremlin officials said behind the scenes that the February congress and the Gorbachev programme would compare in historical importance with the 20th party congress of 1956, when Khrushchev denounced Stalin.

As the Gorbachev congress approaches, the same officials are now talking of an event far exceeding 1956, and phrases such as epoch-making are being bandied about.

For Mr Gorbachev the villain of the piece (though this is not stated publicly) is not so much Stalin as Brezhnev, under whom economic problems were allowed to pile up, leaving his successors with the Herculean task of cleansing the system of endemic corruption while modernizing industry and trying to catch up with Western technology, including computers.

Among the latest government ministers to fall victim to the Gorbachev axe is Mr Vitaly Chudin, Minister for Construction and Civil Engineering, who has been ousted at the age of 55, suggesting that not all the disgraced officials are elderly.

There was unusual praise in

Izvestiya recently for the idea of legalizing widespread moonlighting in the repair and service sectors, with *Ekspress* used as an example. On the other hand, repeated condemnations in the press of illegal private enterprise, a recent *Pravda* broadsheet against the political and ideological dangers of Chinese-style experiments, suggest that the Kremlin is not necessarily tending toward economic reform as understood in the West.

Some Moscow intellectuals are already grumbling that it is not enough to change personnel, from the Politburo downwards, "one must also have ideas". Mr Gorbachev has talked of "intensification" of the economy, of decentralization and incentives, aid of the need to switch resources to new technologies rather than wasteful and grandiose construction projects.

But these measures fall far short of the more radical reforms advocated by liberal economists and sociologists associated with academic institutions, such as Dr Abel Abramovyan's Economics Institute at Novosibirsk.

Even the streamlining of ministries demanded by Mr Gorbachev in a key speech on the economy in the spring has yet to materialize, and it is not yet clear when the current "limited industrial experiments", designed to link wages to productivity, will be "extended to the entire economy" as promised.

Those on the liberal wing of the party hope the hints of reform which have emerged in Mr Gorbachev's first six months are only the beginning - but a powerful lobby of hardline ideologists and bureaucrats hopes they can be subverted and submerged, as previous attempts at reform have been.

Concluded

UK to seek wider use of A-power

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain is to introduce new proposals to improve the provisions of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty governing transfer of nuclear technology to developing countries.

The suggestions will be discussed during the third review conference of the 15-year-old treaty, which begins in Geneva today.

Sponsored jointly with Australia, Canada, Finland, The Netherlands and West Germany, the proposals are intended to make it easier for developing countries to obtain the technology and funding they need to establish non-military nuclear facilities.

One of the provisions of the treaty, specifies that the five countries which possess nuclear arsenals should assist other countries to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

However, the five nuclear powers - the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, France and China - have been criticized for not being sufficiently open with their nuclear expertise.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, will emphasize the need to expand the peaceful uses of nuclear energy when he addresses the conference on Thursday.

A nuclear world? page 10

Easing of nuclear ban 'will help UK'

From Richard Long, Wellington

The Royal Navy as well as the Americans would benefit from New Zealand's moves to change its stance on the vetting of nuclear-armed warships, Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, said yesterday.

Outlining his first moves towards a compromise over the nuclear warships ban, which has strained the Anzus alliance with Washington and Canberra, Mr Lange said it was important to remember that it was not just US ships that were involved.

"We are also talking about the Royal Navy," he said.

Mr Lange said the Royal Navy, as well as the Americans, maintained their policy of neither confirming nor denying

the presence of nuclear weapons on board their ships. What he was seeking, he said, was a policy which enshrined in New Zealand law the Government's policy against nuclear weapons, while respecting any ally's policy of neither confirming nor denying the presence of such weapons.

Mr Lange said he would be outlining his new policy - at the Labour Party conference at the weekend.

While observers expect the move to meet with little enthusiasm from the left wing, which wants to withdraw completely from the Anzus alliance - Mr Lange made it clear he would go ahead with the new policy

Moderates ensure party backing for Sikh settlement

From Richard Ford, Delhi

The election of a new leader of the Akali Dal Party has ensured that the main Sikh political organization in Punjab will fully back the agreement signed with Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, during the forthcoming state elections.

The party has been able to minimize its divisions, in stark contrast to the militant "United" Akali Dal faction which was unable to reach a decision on taking part in the elections. That task now falls to Baba Joginder Singh, aged 83, the father of Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, the terrorist leader killed at the Golden Temple in Amritsar last year.

It is thought that informal contacts between the two bitterly divided factions may begin with the aim of reaching some form of electoral pact may ensure an undivided Sikh vote.

By adept political infighting, the moderates in the Akali Dal have isolated the leading figures opposed to the settlement reached last month, and for this the Government will be very grateful. It means that the accord signed between Mr Gandhi and Sant Jarnail Singh Longowal remains intact, and at the meeting where the new leader was chosen the Akali Dal committed itself to "every word" of the Punjab agreement.

The politicking began within three hours of Sant Jarnail Singh Longowal's funeral, when it was suddenly announced that a close associate, a former Union Minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, had been appointed convener. From then on supporters of the murdered Sant held the initiative and ensured that Mr Barnala was chosen as acting president of the Akali Dal.

They worked assiduously to outmanoeuvre two opponents

of the agreement, Prakash Singh Badal and Gurcharan Singh Tora, and prevent them getting the leadership. Mr Barnala, aged 59, was closely associated with Sant Jarnail Singh Longowal during the crucial period leading to the signing of the agreement and now becomes a terrorist target as he continues the Sant's work of settling the settlement to the Punjab villages.

His election has prevented the party from being plunged into even deeper divisions and halted the real threat that it might have disintegrated if a leader opposed to the accord had been chosen.

In Amritsar yesterday Mr Jagdev Singh Talwandi, a senior "United" Akali Dal leader, was detained by police for questioning in connection with the assassination of Sant Longowal.

● Sri Lanka progress: Informal sources in Delhi said that Sri Lankan and Indian Government officials had made progress in narrowing differences holding up the resumption of Indian-sponsored peace talks between Sri Lankan Government and Tamil representatives (AFP reports).

The sources said that the leader of the Sri Lankan delegation to the peace talks, Mr Hector Jayewardene, had had more informal meetings with the Indian Foreign Secretary, Mr Ramesh Bhambhani, yesterday. They discussed the devolution of power to the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka. The sources said.

● COLOMBO: A fuel train to Mannar in northern Sri Lanka was stopped and the Sinhalese engine driver detained by Tamil separatist guerrillas yesterday (Vijitha Yapa writes).

Hanoi will go ahead with 1990 pull-out

From Our Correspondent, Jakarta

Hanoi would unilaterally withdraw its troops from Cambodia in 1990, though there might be pockets of resistance which could result in a situation not unlike that in Burma or the Philippines, the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, said yesterday.

Speaking before he left for a conference of the non-aligned movement in Luanda, he said one thing that made the 1990 withdrawal feasible was the 1984/5 Vietnamese offensive against Cambodian coalition bases along the Thai border.

"They (the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge) are very demoralized," Mr Thach said there had been a record number of desertions by Khmer Rouge soldiers recently. In the first six months of this year, 2,500 Khmer Rouge had defected to the Heng Samrin Government, compared with 2,000 last year, and 800 in 1983.

Mr Thach did not however rule out the possibility that

Hanoi might keep military advisers with the Heng Samrin Army after 1990.

On the possibility of a withdrawal before 1990, if some sort of settlement were reached, Mr Thach was much vaguer, saying both sides would have to go half way, because for one side to go half way would mean "surrender, and we are not used to surrendering".

He declined to comment on reports of a military build-up to strike at pockets of resistance, or of the reported delivery of additional tanks to the Cambodian port of Kompong Som.

Meanwhile, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Dr Mochtar Kusumadarmas, said the two sides - the Indo-Chinese states and the Association of South-East Asian Nations - were still far apart on the withdrawal issue.

● PEKING: China and Vietnam yesterday exchanged 34 captives at a border post, the New China News Agency said.

Leading article, page 11

Nepal king hits out at bombers

Katmandu (Reuters) - King Birendra of Nepal has dismissed extremists responsible for recent bomb attacks in the Himalayan kingdom as political blackmailers badly out of step with the rest of the country.

Burmese in talks on rebel threat

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Intelligence reports that Vietnam is delivering Soviet arms and other aid to insurgents of the Burmese Communist Party were being discussed with the Burmese authorities by a Thai military delegation which began a visit to Rangoon yesterday.

The reported Soviet aid replaces long-term support from China, which has now cut off assistance to all Communist insurgents in South-East Asia. The Burmese Communists are also reported to be raising money from narcotics and from smuggling other products both ways across the border.

The Thai-Burmese discussions which are being led by the Thai side by the Supreme Military Commander, General Arthit Kamlang-El, are of special significance because this is the first time for many years that senior Thai military men have visited Rangoon. General Arthit says he hopes the visit will benefit relations between the two countries, which have frequently been soured by troubles on Burma's border with Thailand.

Just before the visit the Bangkok press carried an official military officer who is, in effect, the censor of local newspapers, warned editors not to publish reports about the activities of Karen and other groups which have been fighting against Rangoon for more than 30 years. He said reports could make Burma doubtful about Thailand's attitude to the rebels.

Although relations have improved up to a point, some coolness between Rangoon and Bangkok persists because of Burmese suspicions that Thai security forces on the border provide support for the rebels. A month ago, General Arthit ordered that security forces must not support the rebels in any way.

Havana's heritage awaits Western aid

From Alan Tomlinson, Havana

An international appeal to save the historic city of Havana has met with indifference. Old Havana, which boasts some of the most splendid examples of Spanish colonial architecture dating back to the sixteenth century, remains largely intact but is deteriorating fast.

It was declared a World Heritage Area by Unesco the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, which launched a worldwide appeal to save at least part of it in 1983.

Cuba's political friends chipped in: the Soviet Union, Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia provided materials, equipment and technical training; Nicaragua, Angola and Mozambique donated timber unavailable in Cuba.

The rest of the world ignored the plea. Unesco's regional adviser, Señor Rafael Ricart, said the response had been "a bit slow" but was reluctant to divulge a figure.

Señora Lidia Sarmiento, the architect at the City Museum, said Unesco had been unable to do more than publicise the

campaign. "Now everybody knows about the Old City but they have given nothing," she said.

Señor Ricart said the need to restore the Old City before it deteriorated still further was urgent.

The dictator Batista started to pull the Old Town down. The Cuban revolution came along just in time to stop him doing much damage, but the Government has been able to make only \$11 million (£7.8 million) available over the past five years for restoration.

FOR MORE INFORMATION RING 0272 290 871 (ANY TIME).

Reagan steps up crusade to reinstate school prayers and old values

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Leading his Administration's crusade to improve American education and reinstate school prayers, President Reagan has called for greater emphasis on ethics, morality and values in schools.

He said Americans had always known how intimately knowledge and values were intertwined, and wanted their schools to teach the difference between right and wrong as well as fundamentals such as reading and writing.

"We don't expect our children to rediscover calculus on their own," he said in his weekend radio address. "But some would give them no guidance when it comes to even more fundamental discussions of civilization, our ethics, morality and values."

To underline the top priority he said he was giving the quest for excellence, he announced that Mr William Bennett, the Education Secretary, will visit eight schools in the coming weeks, teaching a class in each.

"He's said he's had a lot of practice dealing with unruly groups - like Congress," Mr Reagan said, adding in a remark to the pupils: "Go easy on him."

Mr Bennett caused a considerable stir recently when he insisted that the American political order and the Judeo-Christian tradition were wed-

ded. Calling this tradition and American values as a free people the "flesh of the flesh, blood of the blood," he bitterly attacked "misguided" Supreme Court decisions that have banned prayers in schools and thrown out states' attempts to get round this by setting aside moments of silence for private prayer.

The court-ordered neutrality towards religion had brought with it a neutrality toward those values that issued from religion, Mr Bennett said. He promised to press for legislation and if necessary a constitutional amendment to correct the "disdain for religious belief".

President Reagan has evoked widespread support for his attempt to raise the deplorable standards in most American public schools. But his insistence on reinstating traditional values and school prayers has been forcefully opposed by those who detect the political influence on the powerful "Moral Majority" lobby. Many Jews have also objected to religion in school as being discriminatory against Jewish children.

For the past 23 years school prayers have been forbidden by the Supreme Court as a flouting of constitutional separation between church and state. And in May the court, though bitterly divided, said formal periods of silence at the start of the day were equally unconsti-

tutional if they were explicitly intended as an opportunity for prayer.

Conservatives were outraged by this latest ruling. The Rev Jerry Falwell, the founder of the Moral Majority, compared it with the Soviet Union. "The court is saying there is a greater danger from being exposed to God than from being exposed to drugs and venereal disease, both of which are rampant in the public schools."

Mr Reagan and his wife, Nancy, have both taken strong stands on the issue. The President said at the weekend that it was certainly never the intention the forefathers to bar God from public life.

Many Americans would agree with one dissenting Supreme Court justice who said the authors of the Bill of Rights would have been shocked to learn that the Constitution forbade a state from endorsing prayer. Was it not George Washington who proclaimed that most American of public holidays, Thanksgiving Day?

But support for a constitutional amendment, which requires ratification by two-thirds of the states, now seems to be waning, especially in Congress. Neither President Reagan nor Mr Bennett seem likely to restore what many see as the very stuff of the American heritage: the image of a pious clutch of boys and girls around the village schoolteacher, their heads bowed in prayer.

Guinea's rulers win support for tough economic shake-up

By Richard Everett

Guinea's military Government has been given a vote of confidence after last month's failed coup to launch much needed but unpopular economic reforms.

Brigadier-General Lansana Conté came to power last year after the death of Guinea's first President, Ahmed Sekou Touré. Last month a group of armed men led by the former Prime Minister Colonel Diara Traore, seized the radio station while President Conté was out of the country. However, army units loyal to the President retook the station after a fierce gun battle which left at least 19 dead and over 200 soldiers and civilians wounded.

President Conté was greeted by thousands of people upon his return to the country. In response to his appeal for calm among the country's four main ethnic groups, life soon returned to normal.

Western businessmen in Conakry are expecting the Government to capitalize on the surge of popular support and take measures to revive Guinea's wrecked economy. "There is no better time to act

than now," a French businessman, M Pierre Mahieu, said.

The 26-year reign of President Conté left the rich West African country of six million people bankrupt and saddled with a corrupt and inefficient centralized Government.

The Government has acknowledged the need for reforms, but has been reluctant to launch what the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have called "crucial reforms", for fear of provoking unrest.

The IMF proposed devaluation of the currency, the 50% sharp cuts in the bloated civil service, and privatization of unprofitable state-run enterprises.

es, all of which would sharply affect urban living standards. President Conté recently assured Guineans that his Government's approach to reforms would be cautious. "We will continue to move slowly, to ensure progress and too avoid mistakes," he said.

Meanwhile residents of the dilapidated urban areas must cope with unemployment, power cuts, water and petrol shortages, and exorbitant food prices.

Mrs Aminatou Barry, a civil servant, supports her extended family of 11 on a monthly salary of less than £15 at black market rates. She fears a devaluation and possible loss of work and believes that the IMF conditions are "too strict".

However, she agrees that "something must be done". None the less, there is optimism in the wake of the abortive coup. Many Guineans express relief that it was crushed. "Traore would have brought back a repressive Sekou Touré-style government dominated by all his cronies," Mr Bebelé Diallo, a council worker said.

Mr Brink and his crew would have been the first Europeans to complete a transatlantic flight in their high balloon, built by British designer Don Cameron, who himself failed in a transatlantic balloon attempt in 1982.

The balloon had been expected to land in northern France late today or early tomorrow after what would have been a record-breaking three-day crossing. The flight controller, Kees Hoogstede, said.

The only previous transatlantic balloon crossing was made in August, 1978, by Maxie Anderson, Ben Abruzzo and Larry Newman, who took off from Maine in the United States and landed 60 miles west of Paris after a 3,200-mile flight.

It is believed that Czechoslovak and Soviet pressure on Budapest is to blame for the decision to press ahead with the scheme, which is expected to be completed in 1995.

As if aware of the unpopularity of its decision, the Government announced it on a national holiday.

The British pop group Culture Club and its leader, Boy George, have been drawing big crowds at the Peking Exhibition Hall. Pressed around the television set in the Virgin Records stand, they watched videos of Boy George with some fascination, feet tapping and bodies moving to the beat.

"Sure, I know that's a man dressed up in funny clothes and wearing make-up," said a young man, who wanted to know if Boy George would come to China.

"I'd go and see him for sure." When told that there were no plans to bring Boy George to China, but that an Australian group, Men at Work, would be coming in mid-November, he replied: "Never heard of them, but I'll go anyway."

There were no Men at Work tapes available at the exhibition, the first in China of music on cassettes, records and compact discs by foreign and Hong Kong artists.

Nor, despite the curiosity about Boy George, were any of his tapes on sale, because no deal has been done between Virgin Records and the China National Publications Import and Export Corporation (CNPIEC), the sole distributor in the country.

Ms Zhao Huiyan, deputy director of CNPIEC's promotion and development department, said: "Virgin is asking too high a price for Boy George tapes."

Tapes in China cost between 9 yuan (about £2.20) and 25 yuan.

Across the hall from the Virgin Records booth was another, older crowd, watching



A piper encouraging a boat crew to greater effort at the British Army's annual boat and raft races on the Havel river in West Berlin yesterday.

Atlantic hunt for ditched balloonists

By Our Foreign Staff

A big air and sea search was under way last night for a balloon which went down in the Atlantic with three people on board. The Flying Dutchman balloon ditched about 870 miles off Land's End.

On board were the captain, Mr Henk Brink, aged 43, his wife Evelien, aged 38, and Mr Evert Louwman, aged 45, all from the Netherlands.

As the balloon went down, during an attempt to cross the Atlantic, an emergency message was picked up by the Panamanian-registered tanker World Spring, which was about 80 miles away.

The tanker was heading to the balloon's last known position. Falmouth coastguards in Cornwall began co-ordinating the search and broadcast a message to shipping. A Nimrod aircraft from Kinloss in Scotland was also heading for the scene.

A Coastguard spokesman said: "We understand the cabin part of the balloon is seaworthy." One report said that the balloon's gondola was afloat.

Mr Brink is a professional balloonist and pilot, and the balloon's gondola was equipped with flotation devices and an emergency radio.

However, early in the flight, which began on Sunday in Newfoundland, the trio apparently had radio communications problems with the flight centre, according to the Rotterdam daily, *Algemeen Dagblad*.

Mr Brink and his crew would have been the first Europeans to complete a transatlantic flight in their high balloon, built by British designer Don Cameron, who himself failed in a transatlantic balloon attempt in 1982.

The balloon had been expected to land in northern France late today or early tomorrow after what would have been a record-breaking three-day crossing. The flight controller, Kees Hoogstede, said.

The only previous transatlantic balloon crossing was made in August, 1978, by Maxie Anderson, Ben Abruzzo and Larry Newman, who took off from Maine in the United States and landed 60 miles west of Paris after a 3,200-mile flight.

It is believed that Czechoslovak and Soviet pressure on Budapest is to blame for the decision to press ahead with the scheme, which is expected to be completed in 1995.

As if aware of the unpopularity of its decision, the Government announced it on a national holiday.

The British pop group Culture Club and its leader, Boy George, have been drawing big crowds at the Peking Exhibition Hall. Pressed around the television set in the Virgin Records stand, they watched videos of Boy George with some fascination, feet tapping and bodies moving to the beat.

"Sure, I know that's a man dressed up in funny clothes and wearing make-up," said a young man, who wanted to know if Boy George would come to China.

"I'd go and see him for sure." When told that there were no plans to bring Boy George to China, but that an Australian group, Men at Work, would be coming in mid-November, he replied: "Never heard of them, but I'll go anyway."

There were no Men at Work tapes available at the exhibition, the first in China of music on cassettes, records and compact discs by foreign and Hong Kong artists.

Nor, despite the curiosity about Boy George, were any of his tapes on sale, because no deal has been done between Virgin Records and the China National Publications Import and Export Corporation (CNPIEC), the sole distributor in the country.

Ms Zhao Huiyan, deputy director of CNPIEC's promotion and development department, said: "Virgin is asking too high a price for Boy George tapes."

Tapes in China cost between 9 yuan (about £2.20) and 25 yuan.

Across the hall from the Virgin Records booth was another, older crowd, watching

Palermo's mayor plots downfall of the Mafia 'witch doctors'

From Peter Nichols, Palermo

Signor Leoluca Orlando ended his first month as Mayor of Palermo with a firm warning against attempts to solve the problems of the city and of Sicily simply by imposing isolation, as if the Mafia were a form of tropical disease.

Palermo needs, he said, the help of support of the whole country and in particular an active presence of the state.

He took over the post just as the Mafia was about to launch one of its heaviest attacks against the state. At the end of last month, they murdered one of the leading figures in Palermo's Flying Squad and followed it with the murder of the squad's deputy head, who had been at University with Signor Orlando.

At the same time, a man suspected of having been involved with the first murder died while under police interrogation and he was buried, despite very real suspicions of involvement in the murder, in a white coffin to denote his innocence, amidst the respectful applause of a large crowd.

How could public opinion treat with such respect a man almost certainly working for the Mafia? The answer from the Mayor is simple. "Because of the Witch Doctors," his term for the Mafia.

Signor Orlando looks boyish and is still under 40 but his

experience and personality make him a figure widely respected in Palermo and watched with a sort of hopeful interest even by his political opponents.

He was a brilliant student of the Jesuits - his translations of Greek and Latin were famous - and he went on to study at Palermo University as well as at Heidelberg. In both universities he was leader of the Catholic student movement during the upheavals of 1968. At Heidelberg, he saw Rudi Dutschke at close quarters and in Palermo he led the occupation of the Faculty of Law presided over by his own father.

At the age of 28 he was appointed legal adviser to Signor Pisanelli, the head of the Sicilian regional administration, who was murdered by the Mafia in 1980. That was the moment at which Signor Orlando decided to enter politics and was elected to the Municipal Council.

The Witch Doctors have only themselves to blame for his decision and they will undoubtedly find him a formidable and highly unusual opponent.

"I came from this background where great diffidence was felt towards politics but our social commitment was very strong," he says. He is now a Christian Democrat but he

regards his background as specifically Catholic.

He is a friend of Cardinal Pappalardo, the heroic Archbishop of Palermo, and he holds the post of deputy commissioner of the Christian Democratic Party in Sicily, a supervisory role in which he works with the brother of Mattarella.

This post should prove valuable because his chance of success will depend on how far he can dominate a party which suffers from the faults of four decades of unchallenged power in the city.

Signor Orlando recalls how an African friend studying medicine in Germany decided to return home to practise despite the difficulties that he knew he would face. "My people," he told Signor Orlando, "know that a doctor is better than a witch doctor. But they also know that the doctor is often not there when needed, whereas the witch doctors are always there."

Signor Orlando sees the state in Sicily as the doctor, something that everyone knows is better than the Mafia. But its presence is frequently lacking, "whereas at every street corner here there is a witch doctor waiting to give you a pat on the back and advice and help."

Cuban role sought in Central America

Cartagena, Colombia

(Reuters) - Eight Latin American nations ended a conference on peace efforts in Central America, urging private talks with the US and Cuba and international economic aid to pull the region out of crisis.

Argentina's Foreign Minister, Señor Dante Caputo, said eight foreign ministers at the conference declined to say how they would approach Washington and Havana.

The Colombian Foreign Minister, Señor Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, said the meeting decided that greater emphasis should be given to the economic roots of the Central American crisis.

He called the region's economic depression "a fact of enormous significance, constantly feeding off itself."

A final statement from the meeting said Brazil, Peru, Uruguay and Argentina would back the Contadora group's peace efforts by seeking contact "with the governments of countries with ties and interests in the region."

It was "a tragic situation... At this moment they (Central American nations) have needed, in their level of development, to levels of... 20, 23, 25 years ago".

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Monetarist champion resigns

From Sue Branford, São Paulo

Senhor Francisco Dornelles, Brazil's Finance Minister, resigned yesterday on his return from a trip to Europe, saying his position had become "unsustainable" after President Sarney dismissed Senhor Sebastião Marcos Vital, the Secretary-General of the Finance Ministry.

Senhor Antonio Carlos Lemgruber, president of the Central Bank, has also proffered his resignation, though it is not yet known whether it has been accepted.

Both Senhor Dornelles and Senhor Lemgruber have become dissatisfied with the Government's economic policies. Over the past few weeks they have been pressing unsuccessfully for deeper cuts in government spending to reduce the public deficit. But President Sarney has increasingly opted for the expansionist policies recommended by the Planning Minister, Senhor João Sayad.

Senhor Sayad has repeatedly emphasized that Brazil must grow by at least 5 or 6 per cent if it is to halt the growth in poverty.

A São Paulo businessman, Senhor Dilson Fumero, is rumoured to be a strong candidate to succeed Senhor Dornelles. Senhor Fumero is president of the state-owned Development Bank and is known to favour Senhor Sayad's option for growth.

The new Finance Minister will be the first member of the Cabinet to be chosen by President Sarney himself.

The resignation of Senhor Dornelles will be received with some concern by Brazil's creditors, who had just negotiated with him an extension of the temporary agreement on debt servicing. Talks with the International Monetary Fund over payment for next year, due to begin in early September, could prove even more difficult, in view of the Government's more decided option for growth.

However, there could well be gains, even for the IMF. If Senhor Fumero, or someone with similar views, is chosen as minister, the economic team will become far more united and cohesive. The deep division between the monetarist faction, headed by Senhor Dornelles, and the expansionist faction, headed by Senhor Sayad, has been a serious hindrance

Bid to ban testimony by CIA delays trial

Miami (Reuters) - Prosecutors in the trial of two men accused of conspiring to kill President

Suazo of Honduras yesterday filed a motion seeking to bar testimony that the CIA authorized the alleged plot.

That move to counter a defence claim, with pretrial motions by defence lawyers, has delayed the start of the trial.

Mr Gerard Latchinian, aged 47, a wealthy Honduran arms dealer living in south Florida, and Mr Manuel Binker, aged 49, the Cuban-born owner of a Miami car dealership, are accused of having been ring-leaders in the conspiracy, and of having smuggled, with six others, £7.5 million worth of cocaine into Florida to finance the assassination.

'Hitler' gang broken up

Tehran (Reuters) - Tehran police broke up a 13-member gang led by a 61-year-old man

nicknamed "Mahmoud Hitler", believed to be responsible for at least 10 murders and 40 armed robberies.

"Hitler" had a deputy known as "The Black Samurai", and the gang committed many of their crimes in police or Revolutionary Guard uniforms, say reports.

Funeral march

Tehran (Reuters) - Two thousand mourners marched at the funeral of Mr Karem

Kazemi, aged 30, intelligence head of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, killed by a mortar bomb in marches on the southern front line with Iraq on Saturday.

347 deported

Nicosia (AP) - About 324 Iranian and 23 other workers

have been deported from Kuwait after "physical and mental pressures and confiscation of their property", according to the Iranian news agency.

Race fans die

Oslo (Reuters) - Four horse-

racing fans, flying from Aarhus in Denmark to Oslo for the Norwegian Derby, were killed when their single-engine Cessna crashed into a mountain in thick fog.

A-bomb hailed

Ray Bradbury (above) the science fiction writer who was

63 last week, said in an interview in Waterford Connecticut: "The atom bomb is the most Christian thing we have ever invented. I'm totally convinced it has prevented Russia from taking over the rest of Europe." (AP reports).

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Forty years on

Hong Kong (Reuters) - Major-General Anthony Boam, commander of British forces, laid a wreath at Hong Kong marked the fortieth anniversary of the end of nearly four years of Japanese occupation.

Pilgrims killed

Delhi (AP) - Nine pilgrims, including three women and two children, died when their car

collided with a lorry on the way to the Tirupati temple in Andhra Pradesh, one of the holiest seats of Hinduism.

Extradition treaty

Milan (Reuters) - Italy and Australia signed an extradition treaty under which Canberra will accept an Italian magistrate's report as grounds for allowing extradition.

EEC jobless up

Brussels (AP) - EEC unemployment rose in July to 11 per cent from 10.8 per cent. National figures ranged from Ireland (17.8 per cent) to Luxembourg (1.5 per cent).

Union ban

Delhi (Reuters) - The Indian Parliament approved a law

barring intelligence agency employees from trade union activities to "maintain proper discipline".

Refugee protest

Stockholm (Reuters) - Sweden has accused East Germany of allowing Middle East immigrants to board ferries to Sweden without valid papers.

Heroin haul

Amsterdam (AP) - Police seized 99lb of heroin worth £3.8 million in a series of raids and have arrested nine Chinese.

Swami may face trial over woman

From Richard Ford, Delhi

The head of a religious order and 17 of his disciples are court proceedings following the humiliation of a village woman who spurned his alleged amorous advances.

The unmarried swami apparently approached one of his female devotees while they were in a "math" (convent) in the Panchur district of the southern Indian state of Karnataka and made a sexual advance "in the name of God".

But the swami took offence when the woman told him: "You are an holy man. It is a sin to make advances to your own devotee" before advising him that if he was so frustrated he should marry.

The woman, Mrs Parvathamma Gowda, was then subjected to a long campaign of harassment but with the swami controlling 64 maths in the area and wielding considerable influence, the affair seemed destined to remain a local issue. Even after devotees of the swami allegedly stripped the woman naked before parading her through the streets, Indian life is such that it was unlikely the matter would become widely known.

Frightened villagers failed to protest when Mrs Gowda was subjected to an ordeal which included cow dung and other materials being thrown over her body as she was led through the village of Kudremoti. Neither was prompt action taken by the police and the local administration after she complained to them.

Although clearly deeply shocked and embarrassed at having to talk about such an intimate incident, Mrs Gowda claimed: "They ripped open my clothes, put a garland of neem twigs around my neck and paraded me naked through the village for a full hour. Hundreds of women and men mutely watched the sordid spectacle."

Her brave acts in making the affair public has resulted in Mr B. Rachiah, the state's Home Minister, ordering an inquiry by the police into the incident.

Danube power plan upsets Hungarians

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Hungary's decision this month to go ahead with the construction of a joint hydro-electric power station on the Danube with Czechoslovakia will have a significant effect on the environment.

Many Hungarians are annoyed and last year a letter of protest was presented to the Government. It was signed by more than 6,000 people, including several prominent writers, scientists and historians.

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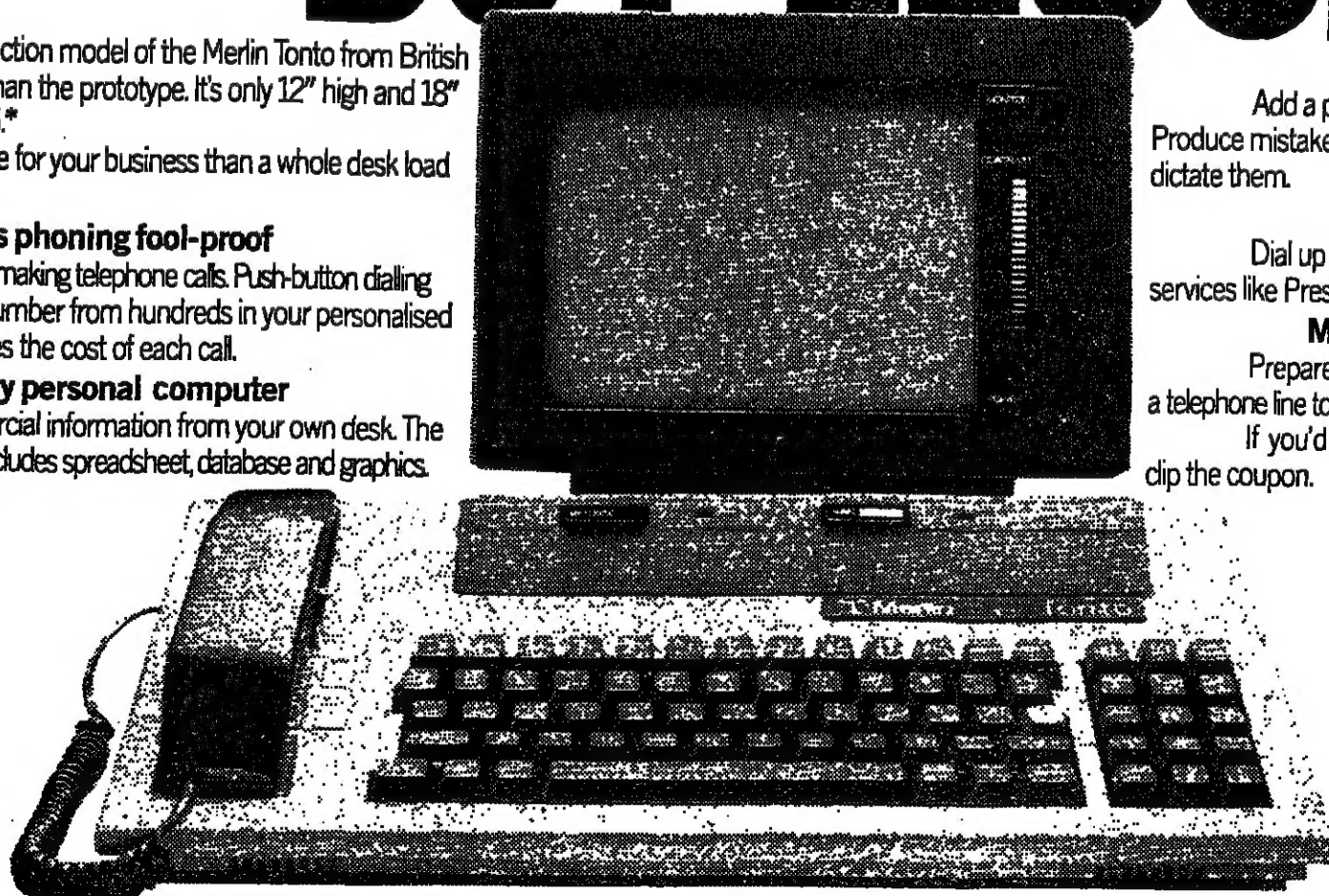
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SPECTRUM

Waging war on heart disease

There has been an alarming increase in heart disease among soldiers in recent years and smoking is being blamed as the major cause.

Thomson Prentice reports on the steps doctors are taking to tackle the problem

It was only when two army padres had come to his hospital bedside within an hour, and he had been told his wife was being flown to Londonderry to be with him, that Sergeant Major Steve Barrett began to realize how much his life was in danger.

He wasn't sure what had hit him. The attack was sudden and came almost without warning. But it wasn't an IRA bullet that had struck him down that morning in May, Barrett, only a few weeks past his 37th birthday, a fit, 12-stone athlete who liked running marathons, had had a heart attack.

"I didn't believe it. I couldn't believe it. I still don't want to accept it," he says. "You think heart attack - finished. Well, I'm not finished."

He exercised until he almost dropped from exhaustion

Yet Steve Barrett is a prime example of an epidemic that is increasingly worrying army doctors. Ten years of medical research has shown that the death rate from coronary heart disease among soldiers is twice that among their contemporaries in civil society.

The average age of the casualties is just 40. Unlike Barrett, most of them die before they even reach hospital. For most survivors it is almost certainly the end of their army careers, so they suffer one huge

psychological blow, rapidly followed by another.

Until recently, that is. The Army is now fighting to save its men, to avoid "this shocking waste of manpower", as one senior medical officer puts it. To win, however, it has to identify the enemy, and then decide which tactics to employ.

"Why me?" asked Barrett as he lay in hospital, and the Army is asking itself the same question. Why are so many of its men vulnerable to heart disease? And what can be done to protect them from more attacks?

Sergeant Major Barrett has not only survived but, just three months after his collapse, is back in uniform again. His career will continue; he has every chance of further promotion. His return to active service has been made possible through what may seem a hazardous route. The tactics are, to say the least, unorthodox. But they offer hope to civilians as well as soldiers, and amount to a significant development in the after-care of coronary victims.

Six weeks after his heart attack, Barrett was transferred to the Army's cardiac rehabilitation unit at the Queen Elizabeth military hospital, in South London.

There, he was wired up to monitoring equipment, put on a treadmill, and exercised with increasing severity until he almost dropped from exhaustion - pushed, as the medical jargon has it, to his "theoretical maximal aerobic capacity".



Fighting fit Steve Barrett in one of the gruelling series of post-coronary workouts

CORONARY DEATHS: ARMY VERSUS CIVILIANS

Age group (years)	Civilian mortality/1,000 male population	Population (x 10 ³)	No. of deaths expected in 5 years	No. of deaths observed	Population (x 10 ³)	No. of deaths expected in 5 years	No. of deaths observed
15-19	0.002	0.1	0	0	25.2	0.3	0
20-24	0.007	1.8	0	0	45.2	1.7	4
25-29	0.029	2.5	0.3	0	32.9	4.0	10
30-34	0.102	2.3	1.2	0	17.8	9.0	28
35-39	0.335	2.7	4.3	2	12.1	20.3	36
40-44	0.942	3.0	14.4	6	4.3	20.4	19
45-49	2.043	2.7	28.8	14	1.1	11.9	11
50-54	3.719	1.5	28.8	19	0.3	6.3	2
Total		18.8	76	41	139.5	72.9	108

Source: British Medical Journal, vol 283, Aug 8, 1981. Time spent: 1979-77

Thereafter, he would be exercised in a pulse rate of 80 per cent of that maximum, to leave a safety margin. That was only the beginning. What then followed, after a series of tests to assess the amount of damage his heart had suffered initially, was a three-week in-patient course of intensive, strenuous exercise, along with eight other patients.

The course involves a daunting daily programme that might seem

more appropriate as a training schedule for professional footballers rather than an aid to recovery from life-threatening illness.

From 8am until 6pm the patients go through a gruelling series of physical work-outs on the hospital's sports field, in the gymnasium, and in the swimming pool. In the pool, for example, the requirement is to swim a total of 30 lengths, and tread water for a total of half an hour.

The grunts and gasps from the gymnasium floor tell their own story of weight-lifting, squats, sit-ups and static cycling.

"If you haven't had a heart attack before the course, this is the place to get one," one observer jokes. Barrett's rationale was only slightly different. "If I'm going to have another heart attack, I want to have it here," he says, gulping air after a game of volleyball. "But if I

don't have it here, I'll have nothing to worry about anywhere else". Apart from relaxation therapy at the end of sessions, the only respite from the daily toil is a list of lectures on such topics as diet, smoking, exercise, the anatomy and physiology of the heart, and the causes of heart disease.

"The aim of these lectures is freedom from ignorance," says Lt-Col. Peter Lynch, head of the hospital's cardiac department. "Each man's worries from now on will all be justifiable".

Lt-Col. Lynch runs the rehabilitation unit and has produced the important research, which has revealed how much soldiers are at risk. He investigated the deaths of soldiers from coronary heart disease over a period of 10 years, and showed that junior soldiers were twice as much at risk as comparable civilians. Then he began to look more closely at the factors involved in such cases.

Strenuous exercise, such as that undertaken by servicemen, was an unlikely cause, he found. Diet seemed irrelevant, since 53 per cent of soldiers are married and eat food similar to any other British household.

Stress peculiar to army life included moving house frequently, periods of separation from wife and family, and the dangers of serving in Northern Ireland. But all that had to be weighed against the security of employment and housing and the strong bonds of comradeship that the Army provides.

A family history of heart disease was no more common among soldiers than civilians. Lt-Col. Lynch found that soldiers tended to be overweight and to have higher levels of blood cholesterol. These were two of the three main risk factors he identified.

But he was in little doubt that it was the third factor that was the deadliest enemy. Publishing his latest research in the *British Medical Journal* on June 22 this year, he wrote: "The disproportionately high mortality from coronary heart disease in junior soldiers seems to be due to the high prevalence of heavy cigarette smoking in the British Army".

The research showed that 95 per cent of soldiers with heart disease were consuming an average of 28 cigarettes a day. "In the Army, the expected protective effect of physical fitness is overwhelmed by the deleterious effect of high consumption of cigarettes".

In other words, Sergeant Major Barrett's marathon runs didn't have much impact on the 30 cigarettes he

got through on most days. He'd been smoking since he was 15.

"It's the comradeship in the Army that makes you smoke so much," he says. "You tend to share everything with your mates. Somebody's fag packet is always going round".

Not surprisingly, Steve Barrett is now an ex-smoker. "I've not had a cigarette since the day of my heart attack, and I don't miss them".

At the end of his three-week course, Barrett and his fellow patients were given the Army's basic fitness test: a three-mile run, to be completed in a given time. It was a crucial stage: failure would have halted, at least temporarily, his return to uniform.

But, like most who go through the rehabilitation course, he passed. There will be a medical check-up in three months, and an annual follow-up.

"Very few of these men have been medically discharged from the Army and most have achieved a medical grading which allows them to function normally in their units and gain promotion in the normal way", says Lt-Col. Lynch.

Cigarettes have been seen as essential to the soldiers' morale

"Perhaps the most striking feature is the improvement in morale. Without exception, patients agree they now live much happier and more contented lives".

But what of the basic problem, the coronary risk from cigarettes? Smoking has been as much part of a soldier's existence as spit and polish and NAAFI tea: since the First World War cigarettes have been seen as essential to the morale of the fighting soldier.

Lt-Col. Lynch is convinced that there must be changes in the tradition. "Now that we know that the high mortality rate is because of heavy cigarette smoking, we have a much stronger case for asking the Army to re-examine its policy of providing cheap cigarettes," he says. Accordingly, he is submitting the latest evidence, along with such a recommendation, to the Army's top brass.

Among the lower ranks health education and the general realization of smoking's risks may have a gradual impact. "I won't preach about smoking to my mates," says Sergeant Major Barrett, "but I insult them about it. I can smell the tobacco on them and I call them all 'dog-breath'. That's my way of helping them to quit".

Take your queue from science fiction

It is, of course, a law of nature that the queue in which you are yourself standing is always the slowest moving. There is no way of getting round this: joining the shortest line is laughably naïve and bound to fail, while joining the longest (my own speciality) is too clever by half and bound to fail.

Anyone who has watched many science fiction films will know the obligatory scene when the androids - indistinguishable from human beings but wholly other - go shopping in the supermarket. It only takes a few carefully positioned androids to do the mischief - and I believe that, once you know what to look for, it is not difficult to spot them.

In the supermarket, you might notice someone - or something! - with a trolley containing four dozen tins of condensed milk. Nothing else. Now, what could any known terrestrial life-form want with four dozen tins of condensed milk? And why is he attempting to steer them through the "Express Check-Out - Maximum Eight Items"?

A change of scene and you are in the bank. Ahead of you, just one person. Suddenly, from a concealed pocket, he takes out £2,000 worth of low denomination notes and very small change, and a big, grubby paying-in book. Who is this person? Have you ever seen him before? Of course you haven't - and very probably you never will. The same goes for the "little old lady" ahead of

FIRST PERSON

Nigel Andrew

you in the post office queue, the one with the hearing problem and the registered package for Albania. A plant, surely?

It's a worrying thought, but it may well be that some check-out queues contain no human life at all (our good selves excepted, of course). Just look at the way they behave: staring into space, eyes always averted from their fellow sufferers, shuffling silently forward a step at a time, apparently in a trance.

There is one sure way to speed up a check-out queue, but it is a risky business. The thing to do is suddenly to remember that you should have bought washing powder, and dash off to pick up a packet, leaving your trolley behind. When you get back, you will either find that you have been overtaken or - if you're lucky - you will have reached the head of the queue.

Then you realize what has been going on. The laborious examination of each purchase from every possible angle, the slow, thick-fingered stabbing of the till buttons, the frantic corrections, the head-scratching pauses, the air of imminent panic. Of course - it's a trainee cashier! Or is it?

Legal, decent, honest and hopelessly nice

David Abbott is advertising's Mr Perfect. As his company prepares to go public, he talks to Bryan Appleyard

Everybody in the advertising business is money-mad, utterly ruthless and possessed of all the easy charm of a speak-your-weight machine - except David Abbott. Every advertising executive is dishonest, loud-mouthed and smarmy - except David Abbott. Nobody in advertising could ever claim to really believe everything he ever said about every product - except David Abbott.

If there is one thing the whole advertising profession agrees on, it's that David Abbott is hopelessly nice and dangerously honourable. "Don't bother with him," said one rival, "he's all legal, decent, honest and truthful".

Abbott is the man who "created" Volvo cars in this country and who placed Sainsbury's with exquisite care at the centre of the hearts and minds of every middle-class consumer. He made *The Economist* seem like essential reading and earlier this year his agency succeeded in making British Caledonian the most loved-and-loathed airline in Britain.

His achievements rest on one simple fact: he is the greatest advertising copywriter of his generation, pioneering the dominant modern style of the industry - intimate, modest, often sentimental and always well on the side of the soft sell.

Consider, for example, the understated charm of the headline: "A Volvo's not expensive when you think what goes into it". Beneath is a photograph of half a dozen

schoolgirls climbing into a Volvo Estate. You are being quietly blackmailed. Volvos are safe. Buy one or you might be risking their lives.

This talent for the simple, intimate yet almost inexplicably potent form of words is worth millions. When Abbott joined his current agency in 1977 it had annual billings of £1.75 million. The figure now runs at £45 million. In November Abbott Mead Vickers is likely to go public, joining industry flagship groups like Saatchi and Saatchi. Few question that it is one man who is responsible.

It began in 1964 when Abbott was learning his craft in an agency then known as Mather and Crowther. He had always felt vaguely drawn to writing and had composed the odd short story before discovering that a job called "advertising copywriter" existed.

He toiled at this for a while until one day he opened the *Daily Express* and saw a full-page ad for a Remington razor. It was a picture of the inside of the razor, he explains, "and it had a headline saying something like - 'It takes guts to charge £10 for a razor'. It was



Soft sell: David Abbott's relaxed style has helped his company to a £45 million turnover

written in such a forceful, conversational sort of way. I suppose I was like Paul on the road to Damascus. I had discovered what I wanted to do". The authors were an American agency called Doyle Dane Bernbach whom Abbott subsequently joined to learn the new language. He adapted it to his own style and began to write copy that effectively overthrew the traditional British advertising stance.

He outraged opinion by repeatedly using the word "we" in an attempt to close the gap between company and consumer and he took on DDB's witty self-effacement - "small admissions to gain large acceptance". In the United States the most famous example was the DDB ad showing a picture of Marty Feldman with the caption: "If he can make it so can Volkswagen".

"It was all about understatement, charm and informality. About having fun with words but not in a literary sense. In English advertising at the time copywriting departments were

actually called literary departments. The job was one that poets did to pay the rent. In New York there was a celebration of advertising copy in its own right. There was more frank enjoyment in communication and a recognition that a bar of soap was not the most important thing in the world and you would sell more if you accepted that fact".

It was a style that came naturally to Abbott. He seemed to be able to adapt it at will to any product. By the age of 39 in 1977 he was at the top of the industry. He proceeded to astound everybody by leaving French Gold Abbott, then billing £11 million annually, for the unknown Mead, Davies, Vickers. "I just felt things had gone wrong at French Gold and I wanted to go and sit in a back room and create jewels. Unfortunately the business grew so fast I had to create jewels in the front room". The Abbott style had by now emerged fully matured and at times, embarrassingly personal.

He took the intimacy of the Sixties to new heights in his famous bid to persuade sons to buy their father's Chivas Regal whisky for Father's Day. Abbott's copy was a hymn to fatherhood. It was a style continued in the recent television campaign for Yellow Pages which had an old gentleman searching frantically through bookshelves for a particular volume of which we learn in the last shot, he was the author. Abbott admits it was all about his own father and ideals of fatherhood.

Such frank self-exposure inevitably carries immense risks and, if it was all that Abbott did, he would be a specialist in products needing the sentimental touch. But there were immaculate harder-edged pitches, like the recruiting ad for the union ASTMS which ran: "The Board has decided it does not like the colour of your eyes...". "I've never been conscious of any particular style, just reading copy out loud and trying to make it flow better," he says. Yet for all this Abbott is

clearly a product of one particular time. His forte is the colour magazine ad and his tone is that of the post-Sixties middle-class consensus. This extends into the whole ideology of his agency which scrupulously avoids cigarette companies, certain South African connections and almost certainly would not touch the Tory or Labour parties. One ad was done for the SDP, a product hopelessly associated with Tories in any case. He says, mysteriously, that he would not advertise *The Sun*.

"I don't want to spend my life doing the brasher forms of retailing. My heart wouldn't be in it. We have a tone of voice that says what sort of people we are, what we like and what we value. Life's too short to try and swim upstream".

He is known as Mr Perfect. Sharp-suited and as immaculately tanned as most of the rest of the advertising industry, he does not seem to share their problems. There is an eerie continuity between the man and the work. He seems at one with his clients, a oneness extending to the tone of voice and his audience. That this infuriating combination can be capable of turning over £45 million a year must be salted in a thousand industry wounds.

But perhaps the most amazing thing about him is the way he seems to have sprung fully-formed into his age and his industry. Doubt and anxiety about his role and his significance never seem to have been detected. Even early ambitions write fiction melted away when he discovered copywriting, though they might return.

"At the end of the day at the moment I'm just writing out. But in the back of my mind I think I may one day write novels. I suspect I won't be able to do it." Out best sellers might turn out best sellers without so much as creasing the haircut.

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Oil for Peace

EUROPE ARAB NATION
Rimini - Italy 13-14-15 October 1985

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Tunnel vision?

From Mr Colin Munro Small, *Burghage Road, London SE24* "The Channel tunnel visionaries" (Spectrum, August 16) would have been better headed "tunnel vision".

All comment on a fixed link, whether it be the ambitious twin-island motorway of Euro-route or the shuttle train floats of the Channel Tunnel Group, appears to be based on the false premise that the prime purpose of a link is to carry private cars across the Channel.

Does no one realize that we have not yet even got a complete motorway from London to Dover or Folkestone, that the French autoroute is still some 20km short of Calais, that most cars cross the Channel at the most once a year in each direction in connection with the savings in time of a fixed link against a ferry (let alone a hovercraft) crossing would be of the order of

TALKBACK

one hour each way at the most?

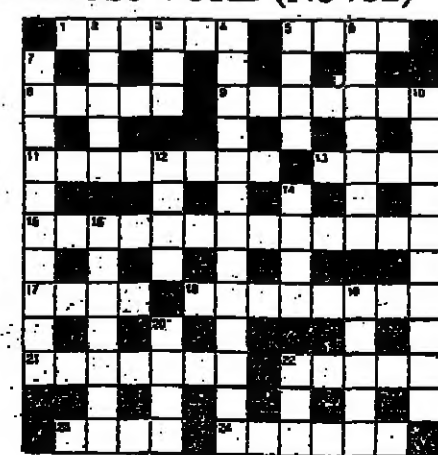
The real potential of a fixed link is for British Rail and their continental partners to provide inter-city services with no need for a change; for a similar system of freight trains to replace many of the environmentally objectionable TIR lorry services currently operating; and for car floats, to run from, say, Manchester to Milan, from Newcastle to Nice, and from Cardiff to Cologne.

If only this basic truth could be assimilated, it would quickly be clear that a fixed rail link would obviate the need to turn half of Kent into a motorway, giving vehicular access to the tunnel/bridge.

It would also reduce the urgency, if not entirely the long-term need, of a third London airport.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 732)

- ACROSS
1 Over (6)
5 Banned enclosure (4)
8 Precise (5)
9 Continue (7)
11 Opening (8)
13 Computer info (4)
15 Uniqueness (13)
17 Mosque leader (4)
18 Use wrongly (8)
21 Fleet commander (7)
22 Father (5)
23 Unruly child (4)
24 Annually (6)
DOWN
2 Long for (5)
3 Select (3)
4 Trivially (13)
5 Restrict (4)
6 Wry look (7)
7 2nd pre-Lent Sunday (10)
10 Fleeting (10)



- SOLUTION TO No 731
ACROSS: 1 Trepid 4 Pullman 8 Relic 9 Excerpt 10 Whole hog 11 Code 13 Avonmouth 17 Same 18 Archaic 21 Edification 22 Issue 23 Tremble 24 Exert
DOWN: 1 Throws 2 Polio 3 Decrepit 4 Preponderance 5 Loch 6 Marconi 7 Natter 12 Appetite 14 Vampire 15 Aspect 16 Awest 19 Aisle 20 Limb

FASHION

More than meets the eye

As frames become cheaper, people are buying several pairs of glasses at once, writes

Lee Rodwell

We all know what Dorothy Parker thought about girls in glasses, but recently there has been a revolution in the world of spectacles. Today's woman can choose from hundreds of fashion frames to find glasses that will match her mood, her clothes and her lifestyle - and which will add to, rather than spoil, her appeal.

Some women prefer to wear specs as distinctive as their perfume. But a growing number are taking advantage of the optician's new marketing policies and competitive pricing to buy three or four pairs, treating them as fashion accessories like shoes or belts.

Men have got in on the act too. Once it was the show-business stars who created fashion trends in spectacles. Having turned the ones they wore into a trademark, remember Hank Marvin in the Fifties, John Lennon in the sixties? Even Elton John's ever-changing range of specs had one thing in common: they were all designed to shock or surprise.

But now many of the male celebrities who wear glasses - disc jockey Mike Read, television personality Christopher Biggins, TA-am's film critic Charles Golding - seem to change them as often as they change their socks.

Charles Golding says that at the last count he had about 22 pairs of glasses. "When I joined TV-am I decided I wanted to wear glasses that would match my bow tie."

"I bought four delicious pairs of Anglo-American frames in red, yellow, blue and mauve. I could only afford one pair of lenses at the time, but a friendly optician showed me how to pop them in and out."

"Then I got some fluorescent ones that glow - in green, blue, yellow and pink. I've also got some multi-coloured fluorescent ones which are a mixture of yellow, blue, green, mauve, turquoise and red. They match anything. People have given me some jokey ones - with pound signs and with windscreen wipers - but I don't wear them. However, I do like a pair I've got that is made up in the shape of a bow tie."

"I have got some old-fashioned, boring, square-rimmed black things but I only wear those if I'm unshaven on a Saturday afternoon and I want to fly out to the shops unnoticed."

Freelance portrait photographer Judy Goldhill also has four pairs. Judy only started wearing them five years ago, but even so, has noticed the changes in that time. "People have woken up to glasses at last. They are far more stylish and fun. The range is wonderful and you can get any shape or colour you want."

Judy's first pair was white and beige ("rather like ice-cream"). Since then she has added a rusty red pair ("because I have red hair") and two preppy styles in tortoiseshell and bright green to her collection.

But it is not just career women, those in glamorous jobs or those in the public eye who have changed their attitude to glasses. Jennifer Pink is a 38-year-old housewife from north London who walked into an optician's and out again with not one but three pairs of glasses.

She says: "I bought one pair with clear crystal frames that go with practically anything, another with frames, and a third for parties that are a little bit Dame Edna Everage - blue with a bit of sparkle."

"I used to get my mother-in-law to bring me back frames from America because they were cheaper and there was a much better choice. But things have really changed over here. It is so nice to be able to walk into an optician's and see wall to wall glasses."

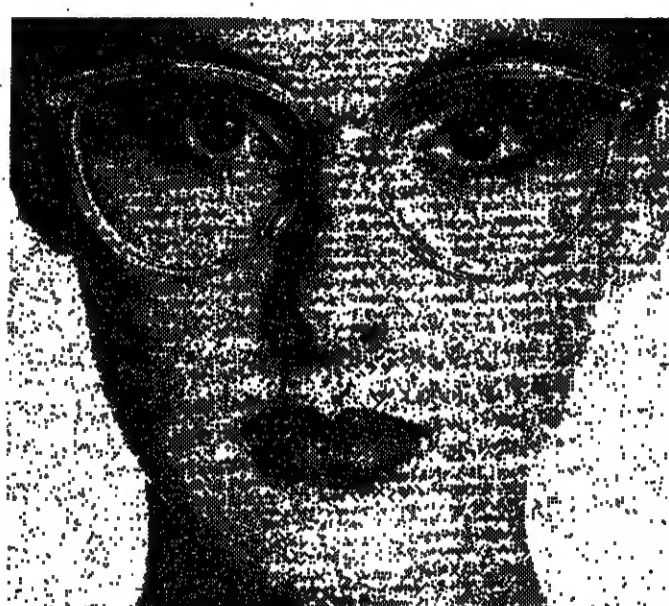
Britain still has a long way to go before we catch up with America where optical super-



Freedom One available in smoke, rose, wine and blue. Price: £7.95 (or £16.95 complete with simple single vision plastic lenses) from branches of Dolland and Aitchison



Tanka available in rust with opal trim, wine with grey trim, blue with opal trim. Price: frame only, £29.95 from branches of Dolland and Aitchison



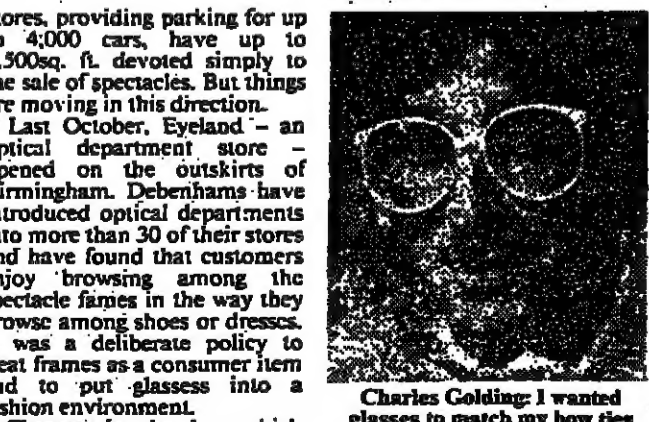
Indolite 551 available in brown, red or black. Price: frame only, £22.95 from branches of Dolland and Aitchison



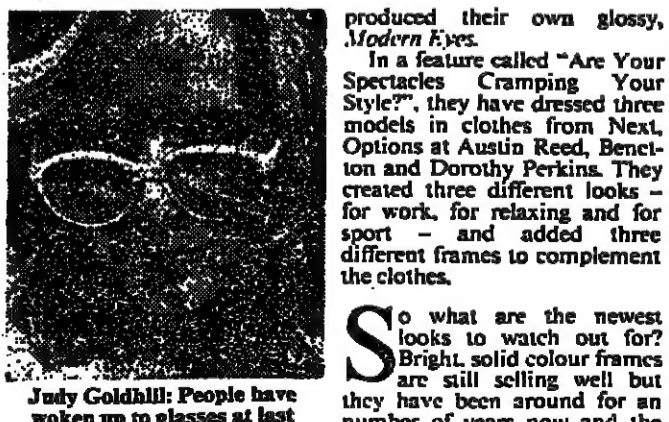
Silhouette 1125 available with black and white trim, yellow and white trim, rust and pearl trim, blue and pearl trim and pink and pearl trim. Price: £26 including simple single-vision plastic lenses from For Eyes, Covent Garden, London WC2



Silhouette 1157 available in burgundy with white trim, clear with white trim, black with white trim, red with beige trim and beige with tiger trim. Price: £35 including simple single vision plastic lenses from For Eyes, Covent Garden, London WC2



Charles Golding: I wanted glasses to match my bow ties



Judy Goldhill: People have woken up to glasses at last

stores, providing parking for up to 4,000 cars, have up to 5,500sq. ft. devoted simply to the sale of spectacles. But things are moving in this direction.

Last October, Eyeland - an optical department store - opened on the outskirts of Birmingham. Debenhams have introduced optical departments into more than 30 of their stores and have found that customers enjoy browsing among the spectacle frames in the way they browse among shoes or dresses. It was a deliberate policy to treat frames as a consumer item and to put glasses into a fashion environment.

Changes in the law which allowed other retailers to sell glasses have forced opticians to move away from their former paragonical image and become part of the fashion business. At the same time, pioneers like Stephen Isaacs were setting the pace with shops like For Eyes where the style was young and bright, hundreds of fashionable frames were on display and a simple pricing structure and fast-glasses service made shopping for glasses as simple and enjoyable as shopping for clothes.

The new approach has had repercussions from the top to the bottom end of the £250 million-a-year market. Prices for fashion and designer name frames have dropped. Many opticians now offer special deals - free frames, free lenses, buy one pair and get the second free. At the same time the new budget frames, introduced to

replace NHS glasses, are more fashionable than they used to be. (Apart from the introduction of a new ladies' frame in 1983, the NHS frames had remained unchanged since 1948.)

Freedom One, for example, available from Dolland and Aitchison for £7.95 is a fairly conventional shape, but comes in a choice of smoke, rose, wine or blue. The smarter Fab 2 frame for £19.95 is made in grey, pink, brown, ruby and smoke.

Manufacturers like Silhouette have always emphasized the fashion element in spectacles; their glossy magazine *Silhouette Journal Couture* shows the latest fashion frames worn by women in designer clothes. Now Dolland and Aitchison, probably Britain's leading chain of high street opticians, have

produced their own glossy, *Modern Eyes*.

In a feature called "Are Your Spectacles Cramping Your Style?" they have dressed three models in clothes from Next, Options at Austin Reed, Benetton and Dorothy Perkins. They created three different looks - for work, for relaxing and for sport - and added three different frames to complement the clothes.

So what are the newest looks to watch out for? Bright, solid colour frames are still selling well but they have been around for a number of years now and the newer frames tend to have trims of colour - often pastel shades - set into clear crystal.

Shapes are getting smaller, although the large, round-eyed preppy look is still popular. Many of the latest frames are slightly upswep like cat's eyes. Fun young fashion styles in the pipeline include colors striped frames in black and white or pink and black with carriages to match. The more sophisticated frames are softly angular, octagonal or hexagonal in shape. New style metal frames are enamelled with bright colours or strips of black or white.

Lenses can be almost any tint you choose, from plain all-over shades to tints that are colour graduated. But the smartest new look is to have no tint at all.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1985
Suzy Menkes is on holiday

The girl who reached Wuthering Heights

It is almost eight years since Kate Bush surprised the pop world with her single Wuthering Heights, which, based on the Brontë classic novel, topped the record charts for a month. Although this unusual singer and songwriter has never rescaled the commercial peak of that teenage debut, a certain visibility has been maintained.

Further hits like Hammer Horror, Babooshka and Sai In Your Lap sustained her audience throughout the late 1970s and early 1980s while her most recent album, *The Dreaming*, entered the listings at No 3 - the same number of years since we last heard from her. A situation which begs the obvious question: whatever has she been doing since then and why has it taken so long?

The latter part is self-explanatory. Bush has always been a perfectionist and for her to spend six months writing songs followed by a year recording them is par for the course. Phil Collins, for argument's sake, might be able to bash out an LP every six months and still have time to play with any act taking his fancy, but Kate is made of more sensitive, self-critical stuff. She is also familiar with the punitive cost of studio time and so spent the rest of her absence building one of her own.

"It had, always been an ambition of mine to have my own studio so once we found a house, we set about putting one together in the back garden," she says. "Although I can work under a certain amount of pressure, paying £90 an hour at Abbey Road got to be too much. It also meant having to travel into London every day which can be pretty exhausting."

By "we" Kate is referring to her bass player and boyfriend of six years standing, Del Palmer. The daughter of a typically middle-class Home Counties doctor, one might have expected Ms Bush to be wed by now. But marriage does not feature in her plans.

She does admit to basing many of her songs on their relationship. For example, the new single, *Running Up That Hill*, is about the inability of a man to see things from a woman's point of view - and vice versa - as a result of fundamental biological differences.

'Making a deal with God ...'

"It seems that the more you get to know a person, the greater the scope there is for misunderstanding. Sometimes you can hurt somebody purely accidentally or be afraid to tell them something because you think they might be hurt when really they'll understand. So what that song is about is making a deal with God to let two people swap places so they'll be able to see things from one another's perspective."

If this seems profound stuff for an anticipated return to the Top Ten, it is lightweight in comparison with some of the material on the forthcoming album. Entitled *Hounds of Love*, seven songs concerning "someone drowning, or rather, trying not to drown."

One track in particular, *Watching Me Watching You*, shows Kate's outrageous imagination at work. A man, with nothing but a lifejacket to keep him afloat, has been in the sea for a while and is becoming quite delirious. He imagines his spirit returning home to tell his loved one of his dilemma but



'The more you know a person, the more scope for misunderstanding'

Kate Bush

she can't hear him because he's only a ghost. Frustrating, really. "Let's face it", Kate tries to rationalize, "it's gonna get pretty weird in the water after a couple of hours. But I suppose the specific message of the song is the really horrific thought of being away from the person you love most and there's no way you can communicate. You can't cuddle them or have the comfort of their physical warmth and they can't even see or hear you."

When not singing about love, Kate is preoccupied by alienation. "The song says a lot about that", she continues. "A parallel situation could exist if it was about divorce. You know, the husband coming back to see his children but he's no longer a part of the home. Instead he's just an observer who isn't being seen by the people there because his role has become so different. I guess there must be some feeling of insecurity within me to make me think along these lines", she sighs, before adding more brightly, "Love and water and sky. That's what sums this album up, really! It's absolutely drowning in it."

If Kate Bush gives the impression of being in need of some help, then it ought to be pointed out that she has always conversed in this somewhat random, madcap manner. And now she's out from the world even more, ensconced in deepest Kent with boyfriend Del.

Last week Del bought Kate an antique pocket watch for her 27th birthday. Enthusiastically she pulls it out, exclaiming: "It gives off really old vibes! It can almost imagine being taken back to the time it

was made. It's like our house. One day we suddenly stumbled across it and a back door had been left open so we were able to go inside. I'm sure there's a kind of force, a magnetic energy saying, come in, we're meant for each other."

Ecstasies aside, Kate Bush has her own views on the news coverage of heroin, hijackings and other current issues and confesses to watching "a lot of rubbish on television just to keep in touch with what's going on". For the record, Saturday evening game shows are favourite although she draws the line at *Dynasty*. And while not entirely approving of breakfast TV - "People are literally hit over the head by the media from the moment they get up" - she realizes that in the age of the promotional video clip it can only help artists like her.

For someone like Kate who takes years to make an album, the video boom has been a godsend. For rather than having to set aside time and energy to promote an LP with a long, strenuous tour, video can do the trick, especially when the record company is prepared to put up however much money is necessary to make the video as spectacular as her live shows have been.

"Ideally we'll be working with budgets comparable to films which means being able to go on location rather than using studio sets. That'll be a great excuse to get carried away!" she almost squeals with delight.

In the case of Kate Bush it's hardly have thought one was necessary.

Mike Nicholls

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Trousers: the truth

FASHTALK

From George Lewis, *Crafting Lane, Peckham*.

Your article on fashion ("Your mother wouldn't like it", August 20), is extremely good and shows remarkable sensitivity to the real truth. A pity you did not go quite far enough though.

Yes to "Your mother wouldn't like it" and hence a tacit acknowledgement of the fact that women, and women only, determine precisely what boys may not wear and what girls may, but no to "some families have reached an amiable compromise".

There is no amiable compromise - men are condemned to no real choice because they were relentlessly, and often callously, conditioned from birth to trousers only. Long before a boy is old enough to long for more freedom he has instilled in him irrational fears and inhibitions about looking like a female. In very sharp contrast, a girl is never given inhibitions about looking like a boy.

How very sad to read, among all those girls and their unlimited and uninhibited choice, the plaintive cry of one small boy, Dominic Mahon. "I wouldn't do anything too outrageous, but I'd like to". Yes, of course he would, as millions of other males would, if society were not able to trade so heavily on all those inhibitions instilled into them by selfish women like those depicted in your article.

How very generous of Irene to sometimes say "yes" to Daniel Collins being able to have a pattern in the uniform his

mother has condemned him to wear from cradle to grave to satisfy her needs.

It's the millions of hypocritical women like the Lily Lamberts of this world operating their double standards that engender a feeling of utter contempt in so many men today, who are sick and tired of women telling us what they think we should be wearing.

Who the hell do they think they are? Instead, they should be questioning the motives of their fellow women who presume to dress as men. Your next article might try to enlighten us on this, as yet politically ignored phenomenon. Or is the truth just too awful?

Pop sense

From Mrs Margarita Woods, *The Green, Richmond, North Yorkshire*.

With Penny Perick credits teenagers (Monday Page, August 19). If Frank Sinatra caused her to lie on a sofa crying all afternoon, imagine what effect pop lyrics describing murder, rape, drug taking and explicit sex acts might have on young people at their most susceptible. Fortunately teenagers are not entirely stupid and are blessed with common sense. The lyrics are offensive - to all ages - but teenagers are reasonably selective and we will probably find the worst songs die a natural death.

Angela Gore



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THE TIMES DIARY

Oh, brother

It's becoming a tradition. During last year's Trade Union Congress the clericalists' leader, Frank (now Lord) Chapple, published an autobiography in which he played Arthur Scargill. At this year's Congress, former steelworkers' leader Bill Smeeth followed suit. His book, *Hard Labour*, variously accuses Scargill of being "dogmatic, scheming and bull-headed", of an "utterly irresponsible" intervention in the 1980 steel strike, of being "the author of the Orgreave chapter of error" during the miners' strike, of "repeatedly ranting on" about the imaginary help which miners gave steelworkers, of himself transgressing the basic trade union principles, of denouncing other unions for not observing of breaking agreements, of stirring facts, peddling untruths and so on. The animosity is clearly mutual. Smeeth reproduces a personal letter sent to him by Scargill last year denouncing his "deplorable" attitude and "sneaking" use of "scab labour" - something which will be on your conscience for the rest of your life. You are a disgrace in the very concept of the Trade Union. A "scornful" letter, says Smeeth. He and Scargill have only ever agreed on one issue, a ban on smoking at TUC meetings.

Sacred cows

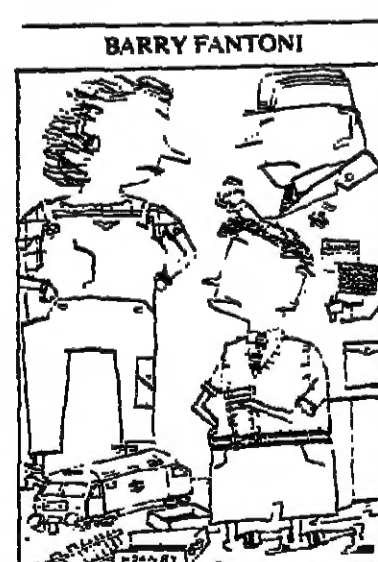
What is the GILC doing presenting such a reactionary production at the Festival Hall? I refer to the *Metropolitan* *Mikado*, recently seen by five female GILC employees whose subsequent angry letter to the GILC chairman, Peter Pitt, has been leaked to me. They complain that it contains "anti-gay, anti-feminist, racist and sexist material throughout". Female chorus members are offensively described as "scrubbers". Victims of violence are disparagingly led to landladies. Three of the women left at the interval. The others made the mistake of staying. "We regret that the GILC should lend its imprimatur to this particularly vicious production, the content of which perpetuates offensive and discriminatory stereotypes." Quite so. The GILC should ban it.

Centing success

Patrick Conlon of Ashford, Middlesex, does not win today's bottle of champagne for stories of the famous in their early days. He writes merely in boast of his success in demanding a case of champagne from the subjects of his tales for not submitting them. I doubt that Sir Freddie Laker is among those who have succumbed to such blackmail. Not, at any rate, to judge by today's winning tale, which G. N. Street of Kellogg was told by Sir Freddie's first wife. When Sir Freddie was managing director of British United Airways in the early 1960s he and the aforesaid wife were shown to their New York hotel room by a porter who waited expectantly for a porter examined the room disdainfully and exclaimed: "Brother, you need this more than I do." Laker replied: "I certainly do," took it back and pocketed it.

Doggie give-away

So much for the SDP's attempt to shed its middle class image. A notice in this week's *Social Democrat* reads: "SDP member attending conference needs a canine to bring with him. Either live in, comfortable Wimbledon home, or have Ben as house guest. Will pay." Not the sort of ad you find in *Labour Week*.



Barry Fantoni

Royal sideline

Is the Queen a usurper? Michael Thornton, in a new book called *Royal Feud*, has the temerity to suggest that she might be. In the Royal Archives at Windsor, he claims, are suppressed documents proving that in 1759, before he became George III, the Prince of Wales married Hannah Lightfoot, daughter of a Wapping shoemaker. If so, his official marriage to Queen Charlotte was bigamous, his children by her were illegitimate, and his sons George IV and William IV had no right to the throne. Nor did Queen Victoria, Edwards VII and VIII, Georges V and VI or Elizabeth II. Moreover, he continues, if George III had been married to Hannah Lightfoot, it seems possible that there are living today descendants of this marriage with a better claim to the throne than the present Queen. I think we should be told.

PHS

Too good for Downing Street

Downing Street looks set to make a post-holiday announcement that the economics professor Brian Griffiths, noted monetarist and scourge of protesting bishops, is to be the new head of the Prime Minister's Policy Unit. The choice provides welcome - if small - clarification to the uncertainty surrounding Mrs Thatcher's team to fight the next election.

Griffiths, who is 43 and almost as well known as a Christian as for his economic work, replaces John Redwood, a 34-year-old merchant banker who has been selected as a Conservative parliamentary candidate and must therefore leave the Civil Service payroll. Redwood's predecessors were the writer Ferdinand Mount and computer systems expert Sir John Hoskyns - a line of succession which says a good deal about the Prime Minister's changing attitude to and exercise of power.

Hoskyns was her spearhead against the Civil Service machine which she so distrusted in 1979. He was eventually beaten by that machine, but not before Sir Robert Armstrong's army had taken some beatings and remodelled itself better to suit its leader. Neither of Hoskyns' successors exercised an equivalent authority. Mount being more a speechwriter and domineering discussor of his unit's ideas, Redwood and his Civil Service

deputy, Nicholas Owen, working closely with the established channels as an adjunct to rather than an opponent of the machine.

The unit remains a mixture of career officials and outsiders. Its function is still to present schemes to the Prime Minister, which Whitehall might abhor or simply miss. In addition it has been both aide, roles that have often superseded the basic one. What is it to be now? What room is there for it in a Whitehall which has got used to Mrs Thatcher and her ways?

Alongside the process of change, the personalities of the policy unit have become increasingly well-known, quoted and remarked upon. Hoskyns' appointment evoked little comment. Griffiths will be analysed more closely both in and outside Whitehall - almost as though he were joining the Cabinet rather than becoming a middle ranking Civil Service adviser.

To the right of the party it will, however, be seen as a welcome signal of rectitude. His fellow academics may not see him as a sparkling original monetarist but he has a passionate belief that Mrs Thatcher's policies are both morally and economically right - and he has foreseen skills in putting this across. The publication earlier this year of a lecture entitled *Monetarism and*



Discreet and loyal - but will he be tough enough?

Morality brought his arguments to attention when the government's handling of the economy was under intensified attack. "Inflation," he wrote, "resulted in a wholly capricious redistribution of income from the weak to the strong"; the Prime Minister is said to have been very taken with this, the Bishop of Durham and Conservative Centre Forward less so.

To experienced Whitehall watchers, the appointment suggests a further shrinking of the unit's real influence over affairs. Symbolically Griffiths may be right. He may have certain specific inspirational qualities in his writing. But, for practical

purposes, even supporters of his views place a considerable question mark over his prospects.

He is not without political experience. He helped Sir Geoffrey Howe in the run-up to the 1979 election and was a member of the informal group of monetarists who advised Howe as Chancellor. But he is not seen as a strong political combatant or even as a subtle worker behind the scenes.

Early last year he was put on to the Court of the Bank of England, allegedly to inject the Bank with a stronger dose of monetarist thinking. He has made little impact in that job, which, if he becomes a salaried civil servant like his predecessor, he will have to leave. As one associate put it, "If he saw something happen that he didn't like, his first instinct would be to keep his head down rather than make trouble."

The disasters of policy presentation and enactment that have dogged this government recently suggest that the Prime Minister needs friends who will make trouble. Griffiths is described as discreet, reliable and intensely loyal - all excellent qualities but possibly too good for the world he is about to enter.

Peter Stothard

Nicholas Ashford on the challenge facing the atomic club

Representatives of 129 states meet at the Palais des Nations in Geneva today for the start of the third review conference of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), a cornerstone of the edifice of agreements intended to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.

They will discuss ways to strengthen the treaty, which is due for renewal in 1995, to ensure it remains as successful in controlling nuclear weapons during the next decade as it has been since it came into force in 1970.

The conference however is likely to be marked by angry rhetoric and political posturing. For despite the NPT's success in discouraging nations without nuclear weapons from acquiring or developing them, most of those taking part will attack the five nuclear weapons nations - the U.S., Soviet Union, Britain, France and China - for having failed to reduce their arsenals, indeed, for expanding them alarmingly. (France and China have refused to sign on the grounds that the treaty is discriminatory but have agreed to abide by its provisions).

The NPT is essentially a bargain under which a majority of the signatories agreed not to acquire nuclear weapons in exchange for an undertaking by the nuclear weapons states to start dismantling their arsenals as a step towards nuclear disarmament.

Increasingly during the past few years, representatives of the non-nuclear states have expressed their dissatisfaction. Some have hinted that they might withdraw. The treaty might not survive beyond 1995.

This would be a tragedy because the NPT, for all its limitations, has been a success. No signatory has as yet pulled out and no non-nuclear state is known to have reneged on its undertaking.

The treaty is not watertight, however. It cannot provide absolute safeguards against nuclear weapons being produced in secret.

One of the treaty's main weaknesses is that most states interested in developing nuclear weapons capabilities have refused to sign the NPT. At least six states - India, Pakistan, Israel, South Africa, Argentina and Brazil - are believed to be capable of making nuclear weapons.

A dozen more, including Iraq, Libya, South Korea, and Taiwan, could follow them soon. Most have been dissuaded from building a nuclear arsenal by the international climate created by the NPT and similar agreements.

If some countries were to withdraw from the NPT, or if it became clear that the treaty would not be reviewed in ten years time, it is likely that some of them would no longer feel constrained and a new nuclear arms race would be unleashed.

The dissatisfaction of the non-nuclear states is understandable. Article VI of the NPT obliges those with nuclear weapons not merely to conduct negotiations on nuclear disarmament; they are expected to produce results. In fact their total number of strategic nuclear weapons has risen from about 6,000 warheads when the treaty was signed to about 20,000 today. Although most of this increase stems from the US-Soviet arms race, Britain and France have also progressively expanded their nuclear arsenals.

In the past 15 years the superpowers have ratified only two arms



Can Geneva stop the world going nuclear?

control treaties (Salt I and the anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty) and the arms limit on the seabed (SALT). There have been far more failures: Salt 2, the threshold test ban (TTBT), comprehensive test ban (CTBT), and peaceful nuclear explosions (PNET) as well as the START and intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) talks which came to a halt in 1983.

There has been little progress in the arms talks which resumed in Geneva in March and none is expected in the near future unless the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in November provides the necessary political impetus. Judging by recent statements in Washington and Moscow, this seems unlikely.

At meetings held earlier this year to prepare for today's conference, the non-nuclear weapons states repeatedly urged the nuclear powers to make a gesture to show they are committed to fulfilling their obligations under article VI.

The Russians subsequently made such a gesture. On July 24, the eve of the 10th anniversary meeting of the Helsinki Final Act, Gorbachev announced a unilateral moratorium on Soviet nuclear testing until the end of this year. He also offered to extend the freeze indefinitely if the US agreed to halt its underground nuclear tests.

President Reagan rejected the offer on the grounds that such a moratorium could not be properly verified. At the same time he reiterated an earlier invitation for

Soviet experts to observe the next US underground test in Nevada - an offer which Moscow in turn rejected.

The US (and Britain) regarded the Soviet offer as a skillful propaganda ploy designed to present the Soviet Union in a favourable light at the review conference and to impress western public opinion ahead of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

But, whatever the motives, there seems little doubt that the Soviet action has impressed many of the NPT delegates. This means some of the heat will be off Moscow and the US will be the principal whipping boy.

The feeling in Washington and London is that there will be a lot of bluster at Geneva but no walkouts. As Richard Perle, the US assistant defence secretary, predicted at a preparatory meeting, "In the end reason will prevail. The signatories will realize it is in their interests to keep the treaty in force and even strengthen its mechanisms."

But critics among the non-nuclear states and the non-governmental organizations which will work at the fringes of the conference consider this unduly complacent. They fear that even if there are no walkouts, a conference that produces nothing more than pious hopes and a lot of hot air could set the NPT on a downhill course from which it might not recover.

The non-nuclear states believe the superpowers could quickly revive the NPT process by agreeing to an early resumption of talks on a

comprehensive test ban treaty, the only nuclear arms control measure supported in principle by almost every country in the world.

The CTBT negotiations, involving the U.S., the Soviet Union and Britain, began in 1977 and were terminated in 1980 with 90 per cent of the draft treaty completed. Two years later President Reagan announced that he would not resume the talks, on the grounds that such a treaty could not be effectively verified. Britain shares this view.

However the Americans inadvertently undermined their argument when, rejecting the Soviet offer of a freeze on nuclear testing, they accused Moscow of having just completed a series of three underground tests - revealing that they do have effective monitoring equipment.

Washington's real objection to a CTBT is that it would effectively halt the development of new weapon systems, such as the MX and Midgetman missiles and weapons involved in the proposed "Star Wars" project. The US has to continue nuclear warhead tests - without being able to rely on the simulations advocated by supporters of the test ban - if these weapons are to become key parts of its deterrence system. That means the Russians too will feel obliged to resume testing.

It has been suggested, by David Owen among others, that Britain should take the lead in getting CTBT talks going again. But, apart from British doubts over verification, it could not get either superpower back to the table against its will.

With little likelihood of any constructive outcome, the best that can be hoped for at Geneva is maintenance of the status quo. That would at least give the nuclear weapons states another five-year breathing space to make progress on nuclear arms reduction.

Before then, however, the present dissatisfaction could lead some countries to go nuclear.

Digby Anderson All stations to Rhetoric

Until the coal strike I had never heard of Orgreave or Nacods or thought about the finer points of defining an "uneconomic" pit. I had heard of Sid Vincent but never seen a photograph of him sunbathing. Last week a new round of introductions was made. We were invited to become acquainted with a new set of place names, people, organizations and problems.

I now know, roughly, where Margam is and that it is a rail depot. A newspaper reporting an article by BR's chairman has explained that the journal which carried it, *Railways*, is "the rail industry's paper". I will try to remember that. Nor should I forget to refer to DOOs, not DOTs - driver only operations, not driver only trains. I am positively steeped in the lessons of BedPan. I know more about Sir Robert Reid - tough but reticent - and the gentleman who is always advising other people, mostly Sir Robert, to pull back from precipices. Mr Knapp.

Mr Knapp says of commuters: "I hope they will put pressure on the (BR) board to step back from the precipice". The dispute is not as one between two parties, the BR board and the union, but his remark is a reminder that there are, in fact three parties: the board and its supporting politicians, the railway guards, their union and politicians and, a much larger group than either, the customers of the railway and those forced to subsidize it through taxation.

The important dispute is not between the first two groups but between both of them and the third, what we might call Us. Mr Knapp's remark also casts light on what Us's role is to be in the dispute: Us is to be inconvenienced, unable to get to work or visit aged relatives and meanwhile obediently learn where Margam is, what a DOO is, whether BedPan lady travellers are more frequently attacked than those travelling when they can, to Crydon.

If the dispute continues there will be more information. We shall learn how much the French spend on their railways, how reliable or not driver-telephones are, a centenary will have a heart attack on a train near a headline: "Can telephones give the kiss of life?" No doubt Margam is a candidate for eulogy as a "close-knit community" - it is in Wales and the stranded commuter and defrauded taxpayer will be told not to be angry but to think of the deep divisions that sucking unnecessary guards could cause in our society.

No doubt too the BR board will be trying to teach Us names, facts and opinions in the hope that, when asked by a friendly pollster, Us will prove 100 per cent behind the board. The role allocated to the customer-taxpayer is to muse on his plight fortified by rival statistics, horror stories and acronyms, form a view and then "put pressure on the board", the unions or a local MP.

There has been much speculation over the choice of names for the two children born to the Prince and Princess of Wales. Why William? Why Henry? Why not George or Arthur, or even Kevin or Terry? Well, I can at last put a stop to this uncertainty, as I have recently spotted the main pattern behind the choice of the royal names. William and Henry are two of the four main characters in a great literary masterpiece: I mean, of course, the books by Richard Crompton featuring William and the Outlaws.

If my theory is correct, it enables me to predict with certainty the names of the next two princes to be born to the Prince of Wales. A swift look at any William book will reveal that we are due to have members of the Royal Family called Prince Ginger and Prince Douglas. Unusual names, perhaps, but I applaud the enterprise involved, especially as it enables me also to predict the kind of conversation which will go on among the four royal princes...

William hated history. He hated reading about the Kings and Queens of England and being reminded that they were all his ancestors. What he really hated about it was that they had all had such exciting adventures, which he certainly wouldn't get if he was ever to be King.

"It's just not fair," he said morosely. "Why can't I order executions and wars and things when I grow up? I mean, this country would be far better run if we could just throw a few people in the Tower."

"What Tower?" said Prince Douglas, who was hazy on history.

"The Tower of London," said William impatiently. "Queen Elizabeth was always throwin' people in the Tower if she didn't like them. If she really didn't like them, she had their heads chopped off. I bet that taught them a lesson."

"Who would you throw in the Tower, then, William?" said Henry, who quite liked the idea. William thought about it for a moment.

"Well, my history teacher for a start. He goes on an on about the Kings and Queens of England, but I bet he hasn't even been to the Tower. He'd learn a thing or two about history if he was shut up there for a year or two. It's what they call practical experience."

"There's probably a law against it," said Ginger despondently. "And that's another thing..." said William, warming to his reform

Both "sides" subscribe to the same solution as far as Us is concerned: charter democracy. They want Us to listen to endless facts (albeit selected and massaged) then form a political opinion, that is, an opinion about the dispute in general. No, they think Us ought to do this or that. What a noisy and unfair solution. Why should Us learn about Margam and BedPan? Why should Us have to talk tediously about precipices and offer cups of tea to pollsters? If the butcher is rude or sells bad meat, Us do not feel morally required to survey the annual livestock distribution system or read about it for months in the papers. Us merely go to another butcher instead. And so with the greengrocer, the taxi company and soon, the buses. No chatter needed.

Only customers who positively enjoy complaining bother "to put pressure" on the butchers' federation or whatever; you see, there's so little chatter about it. I don't even know what it's called. Why aren't Us allowed to be so ignorant about what NUR stands for?

The essential fault of a nationalized, tax-subsidized monopoly such as BR is not its dirt, unpunctuality, rudeness or the suffering caused when a monopoly (albeit only a monopoly of one form of transport) goes on strike, but the customer's powerlessness to hurt it directly and immediately as he can the butcher and greengrocer. Cushioned by customers' short-term difficulties in seeking alternative transport and apparently eternal bail-outs by the taxpayer, BR is free to inflict misery on its impatient customers. It is the powerlessness of its customers which permits all the other faults to continue.

Denied crucial economic power, the consumer-taxpayer is encouraged to chatter, complain to rail-union bodies, write letters, read about Margam and DOOs, "put pressure on" politicians and support Knapp and blame Reid (or vice-versa) in the same manner as one rail employee blames another for a late train - "fault further down the line, mate". Who among us cares which particular employee or sleeper is at fault? That is their business.

Us should refuse the invitations to listen to the cases of Messrs Knapp and Reid. It is bad enough being fleeced and stranded without being bored to tears. Nor should consumer-taxpayers accept the Knapp-Reid definition of the dispute as between the two of them. For Us has a cause of its own to fight, the end of the subsidies which shield BR from customers' dissatisfaction (if subsidies are made they should be to the transport consumers, not producers) and the break-up of the BR monopoly. That would give the customers their rightful individual economic power and curb the futile, politicized chatter. I don't see my butcher's features in the paper or on the television; why am I subjected to those of Mr Knapp?

The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit.

moreover... Miles Kingston

At the court of Queen Richmal

programme. I'd bring back the idea that Kings and Queens of England can make laws. Crumbs, in the old days the Kings were always making laws. If they wanted to have more money, they only made a law raising taxes and they got it. I'd probably make a law about more pocket money."

"That wouldn't make you very popular."

"Yes, it would," said William. "Cos I'd raise pocket money for every child in Britain. And I'd make a law saying they could bring their dogs indoors, and not have to help with the washin' up and everything. Gosh, I bet I'd be the most popular king since..."

"Since King Ginger, said Ginger unexpectedly."

"I don't remember a King Ginger," said William. "Correct me if I'm wrong, but I don't recall a Good King Ginger."

"He wasn't actually called Ginger. He was called Rufus. But it means the same thing in Latin. My history teacher explained it all to me."

"Oh yes, that's very likely," said William, who couldn't remember a King Rufus either. "It's very likely that the people of England said, 'Let's have a King called Ginger and translate it into Latin. I bet there isn't even a Latin word for ginger. I bet the Latins didn't even know about ginger beer.'"

"It's not that kind of ginger," said Henry. "It means red-haired. I spect there were some red-haired people in Rome."

"I don't know if you have looked at Ginger's hair recently," said William. "But it doesn't look very red to me. Correct me if I'm wrong, but it looks more like black. Course, there may be something wrong with my eyes, but it looks a lot like black to me."

"It's not my fault," said Prince Ginger. "When I was christened, they weren't sure what colour my hair was going to be. Now it's too late."

"It's never too late," said William comfortably. "If you ever want to change your name, you just come to me and I'll pass a law to change your name to Prince Curly or something, and if people don't like it, I'll throw them in the Tower."

"It's stopped raining," said Douglas, who was bored by the conversation. "Let's all go out and play the Battle of Hastings."

So they did.

Setting the right example to the clueless

"Don't put your daughter on the stage," Mrs Worthington, sang Noel Coward. "And please, Mr Worthington, don't send us your crosswords. I am sometimes tempted to add. As soon as any article on the subject appears, crosswords start thumping through the letter-box."

Each envelope may contain up to half a dozen crosswords with a request for their immediate publication, on failing this, for a detailed critique of each clue.

All that will be missing is an explanation of any of the clues, however abstruse, and a stamped addressed envelope. Once or twice even the answers have been omitted.

The real trouble is that the thriving cottage industry of crossword compiling has too few outlets. The *Times* has a waiting list of a score or more would-be compilers which has changed hardly at all in recent years, and other publications are similarly oversubscribed. And unfortunately it is a easy (and additionally a complex) bad crossword, as Quiller-Couch used to say, easy writing makes hard reading, and the same is true of crosswords.

The beginner can usually be recognized by his over-reliance on anagrams and his failure to fit them into reasonable contexts. As, for example, in the tidings "Heavens! I have lost a garlie ring somehow" (ASTROLOGICAL; or "Some significance about monetary P" (IMPORTANCE), where the compiler has been driven to inventing a new adjective.

(Words of which only one instance is recorded are not uncommon in this field. One of *The Times* compilers, when judging a competition for clue-writing, awarded his Hapax Legomenon trophy to "Implement giant increase for PM" to which the answer was alleged to be OGREMORE, though this could not be found in any dictionary. The competitor swore, however, that it was a thatcher's tool and appeared on page 153 of a book entitled *Frugant the Fertile Earth*.)

In compiling a good puzzle the setter has to contend with two constraints, the rules of his craft and the obscurity of his materials. One can usually hack out an anagram of sorts from a given word, but the

difficulty is to find a context into which it can be fitted naturally. The ideal anagram creates hardly a ripple on the surface meaning of the clue, as in "Wild parties a host has to put up with" (PARASITE). Or it may sneak under the solver's guard by using an unexpected indicator, as in "Be weak because aged and hammer-toed" (DOTE); and it may even become a clue in its own right - "Donizetti's heroine appears for the changing of the guard" (referring to his opera *THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT*).

Another weakness of beginners (and indeed of most of us) is the temptation to be too clever. Once a clever wheeze has caught the setter's fancy, he cannot believe that something so clear to him can be impenetrable to someone else.

The best in this genre is probably the clue to which our compiler judge awarded his prize for the Most Convoluted Explanation. "Would a confectioner from this shrub do for a young Israeli?" (JUNIPER). Explanation: "From juniper berries is made gin. A gin is also a trap or snare, so would 'do for' anyone caught in it, and a young Israeli is a

"Jew-nipper". Which makes Torquemada look simple.

One oddity about compiling crosswords is that good solvers do not, on the whole, make good setters (though two of our regular compilers are shining exceptions). At this year's Leeds regional final of the Collins Dictionaries *Times* Crossword Championship, the *Daily Evening Telegraph* enterprisingly asked competitors to try their hand at writing clues. The resultant multi-compiled crossword, though hardly a fair test, certainly seemed to confirm this.

Spectators at the national final, at the Park Lane Hotel, London, on Sunday September 8, will not be asked to devise clues but there will be some quick puzzles for which they have to supply missing answers as well as solve clues. They will also be of course be able to try the same puzzles as the finalists, with prizes for the fastest correct solutions. There is room, at £2 a head, for up to 300 spectators, who are asked to arrive in time to be seated by 1.30pm.

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UNIONS AND DEMOCRATS

Democracy within trades unions adds challenge and uncertainty for management and union leaders alike. It remains to be seen whether British Rail's guards have voted decisively for industrial action. The expected vote to allow a strike, however misguided, would give more formidable authority to the action. Because of the vote the dispute will not destroy the legitimacy of the union itself or of its current left-wing leadership.

Britain's miners will be watching the NUR with particular interest and regret. The National Union of Mineworkers had long relied on a democratic constitution as the foundation of its legendary solidarity. Yet when the union was making its recent important decision of its recent history, Mr Arthur Scargill and his colleagues in the triumvirate that runs the union at national level were afraid of democracy. The careful avoidance of a national strike ballot by Mr Scargill split the union and led it to its most disastrous defeat for two generations.

Thereafter, instead of returning to democracy, the national leadership introduced through the national delegate conference a new set of rules that centralised power. The rule changes gave the national union great and vague disciplinary authority over members and hitherto autonomous regions and changed the status of its president so that,

most obviously, Mr Scargill could avoid re-election indefinitely. The Nottingham miners' breakaway was precipitated by this denial in practice of democracy, rather than policy differences.

The crucial ballot among the miners of Nottingham, South Derbyshire and of the Colliery Trades and Allied Workers Association (formed from those expelled from the NUM in the North East for working on whether to form the Union of Democratic Mineworkers, lies a month ahead. Electioneering is already in full swing, with Mr Scargill campaigning in Derbyshire over the weekend.

Under such circumstances, other miners might be expected to hold their fire. Yet the cracks in Mr Scargill's monolithic new-style NUM have been opening up since the past fortnight. Union leaders in Leicestershire have cautiously called for branch meetings to discuss a possible breakaway. Warwickshire's largest pit has voted to take a close look at the new union.

Most significantly, the Lancashire miners' leader, Mr Sid Vincent, whose members were notably split during the strike, has stated under pressure that the new rules do not apply in his area of the NUM federation. That was one possibility that both Mr Scargill and Mr Roy Lynk, the new general secretary in Nottinghamshire, agreed was

unworkable since the new rules, which Lancashire did nothing effective to oppose, contain a condition that they be written into and override local rules. The NUM's white collar section appears similarly to be sitting on the fence.

The split of the NUM remains essentially between those who worked and those who struck in 1984-85. But it would be wrong to dismiss the democratic drive for the new union in that way, as some managers addicted to the inward-looking square dance between a monopoly National Coal Board and its in-house monopoly union still tend to do. In the past they have deserved each other. A new restructured and competitive coal industry deserves neither.

Mr Scargill has revealingly said that next month's ballot will be a battle for the loyalty of members. In any democratic union leaders would expect to be loyal to their members' wishes not vice versa. They must also recognise that miners, their individual families, immediate working groups and communities have their own economic interests which cannot wholly be subsumed in the policies of a national union - whether these interests be in incentive schemes or in future ownership of their pits or areas. That change is a necessary condition for the creation of a new coal industry in whose prosperity miners can fully share.

MR BARRY GOES A WOOLING

Mr Peter Barry, the Irish foreign minister, went out of his way at the weekend to tranquillise Ulster unionists, who are getting very jumpy about the long and leaky "Anglo-Irish process" set in motion after the Chequers debacle last winter. Welcome as his words are they will be of little effect.

Constitutional Irish nationalism, as partly reconstructed by the Forum exercise of 1983-84, goes out of its way to acknowledge the reality, even in some sense the validity, of the Ulster unionist identity, ethos and tradition. It dilates on the way in which the unionist tradition would be catered for and given guarantees within a "new Ireland" in every respect except the one which matters most to political unionism, which is of course that it should not be bedded together with the Republic.

Post-Forum nationalism also exalts the principle of consent. It concedes and proclaims, in contradiction of the armed republicanism of the IRA, that there can be no change in the fundamentals of the constitution under which the inhabitants of Northern Ireland live other than with the freely given consent of the majority there. What the new nationalism is not prepared to do is to complete the syllogism to be derived from those two premises.

If unionism, its Britishness and all, is a valid Irish tradition;

and if the present upholders of it are not to be required to lose its constitutional embodiment without their consent; then they are entitled to opt out of Irish unity. They have after all a right to be partitioned off.

Mr Barry came a little closer to saying that than others in his government or in the Forum conference have cared to do. The obligation on nationalists and unionists to show mutual respect, he told his audience in Cork, extends on the nationalist side to "respect for unionist opposition to Irish unity". That goes a long way, but not so far as to acknowledge that unionists enjoy their present status by right. Indeed, he could not go that far without giving away the moral basis for the pursuit of Irish unity, sometimes called the national aspiration.

Mr Charles Haughey's position is simpler. The Irish people have pronounced on the issues of independence and unity - in the general election of December 1918 when Sinn Féin triumphed. That expression by majority of the will of the Irish people is said to have lost nothing of its validity and moral force since there has been no intervening opportunity for the Irish people as a whole to return any other verdict.

The present Irish government does not rest its case on that sophistry. Instead it leaves undrawn the conclusions sug-

gested by its moral concessions to unionism, preferring to enlarge on its own present intentions. These are to join with the British government in the search for structures and devices that may help to reconcile the antagonistic communities within Northern Ireland, enhance confidence in the law enforcement agencies, and lower the water table that refreshes the IRA. As for unity, it accepts for practical purposes the reality of the unionist veto for the time being.

That that is a true account of the intentions of Dr Fitzgerald's government is perfectly credible in London and the capitals of most nations friendly to both Britain and Ireland. In Belfast the whole "identity, ethos and tradition" of Ulster Protestantism conditions them to believe otherwise. They do not need to be reminded that the Mr Barry who proclaims respect for unionist opposition to Irish unity is the same Mr Barry who was expounding in the Dail last month the two prongs of his government's policy. First, it was totally committed to Irish unity and would continue to work for its achievement by peaceful means. Yet it had to face the fact of British unwillingness to establish a unitary state now (scant respect for unionist opposition in that misformulation of political reality). Second, it was seeking to transform the condition of the Northern nationalists and do it now.

HOPE FOR CAMBODIA

When Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia and installed Vietnam's placemen in government in Phnom Penh, only two parties stood to benefit: the Vietnamese authorities, who saw a prospect of uniting their divided people behind a long-cherished territorial ambition; and the Cambodians who desired an end to the destructive rule of Pol Pot.

With hindsight, even these two parties must doubt whether the invasion was worthwhile. For Vietnam, it brought international censure and cast it more firmly into the embrace of the Soviet Union than it may have wished. For Cambodia, too, it brought international isolation (Cambodia was now deemed to be Vietnam's problem), and failed to generate the economic and cultural revitalization Cambodians hoped for. They were embroiled instead in a bitter civil war.

Now, at last, there are signs that both Vietnam and the Vietnamese-backed government in Cambodia are beginning to recognize the damage the Vietnamese invasion has caused. A statement issued at the end of the regular six-monthly meeting of Indochinese foreign ministers 10 days ago made a number of proposals that merit attention. Vietnam pledged to complete the withdrawal of its troops from Cambodia by 1990; that is, five years earlier than expected. The

Vietnamese-backed government of Heng Samrin said it was willing to talk to opposition groups in Cambodia, with the exception of those who supported Pol Pot (which may or may not mean the Khmer Rouge). And both indicated their willingness to examine a proposal by Malaysia for talks to review the situation in the region generally - a nebulous proposal that could mean a discussion of how to effect a Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia with minimum loss of face all round.

The specific features of these proposals - which have already been dismissed as meaningless by China, by the anti-Vietnamese coalition in Cambodia, and by some countries in South-East Asia - are less important than the fact they have been made at all. For the first time, it seems, the three countries of Indochina - Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia - have agreed that some movement on the question of Cambodia is necessary. The proposals were followed by a flurry of diplomatic activity. The Vietnamese Foreign Minister has visited Indonesia, the one South-East Asian country which has kept the lines of communication with Vietnam more or less open in recent years. The visit was described by both sides as the most fruitful yet. Now the foreign ministers of Vietnam and Laos have gone to Moscow.

It is just possible that what we

are witnessing are the first faltering steps towards a negotiated settlement in Cambodia.

What makes the omens especially propitious is the interest of the superpowers. The Soviet Union, facing economic pressures of its own, would probably welcome a reduction in its obligations to Vietnam, so long as it could keep a strategic foothold in the area. China would probably favour a settlement which would reduce its expensive and diplomatically awkward commitment to the Khmer Rouge without bringing the total annihilation of that organization. And if both the Soviet Union and China are serious about wanting to improve their relations, as they appear to be, a settlement in Cambodia would eliminate one of the major obstacles.

For the United States, too, a settlement in Cambodia would make good sense. As American society comes to terms with the legacy of the Vietnam war, it will want to develop a more normal relationship with Indochina. This is difficult, if not impossible, as long as the Soviet Union backs Vietnam and the Vietnamese-installed government in Cambodia to the exclusion of all other parties. A sign of flexibility such as that contained in the Indochinese foreign ministers' statement could be just what everyone has been waiting for.

US resentment of Japan's recovery

From Mr R. P. Dore, FBA

Sir, Theodore White (feature, August 16) finds it ironic that, 40 years after totally defeating Japan, the US should now, on the trade front, be so desperately defensive against Japanese competition. He does not seem to notice the irony that a nation which claimed at the time to be fighting only for freedom and justice should now be complaining that victory did not win them in Asia the hegemony in perpetuity which they think they deserve.

But there is one fallacy in Mr White's article which is really dangerous. The Japanese should remember, he says, that "if peace is paramount, they need us to keep the peace more than we need them." For the Japanese thinking classes (especially the bureaucrats who effectively make policy) the American umbrella is a very mixed blessing indeed. (All umbrellas have problems when it's not the rain you're worried about but being struck by lightning.)

The option of dealing with possible threats from Russia by building Japan's own "just-enough-to-deter" nuclear weapon, *la Chinoise*, is an obvious and entirely feasible alternative. It is a rejected alternative only because of Japan's stake in the American market which it needs "ally status" to keep and because the Japanese have a strong emotional and economic interest in renunciation of military power ambitions. Their enthusiastic support of the Non-Proliferation Treaty is a key means of demonstrating that renunciation to the world.

But let Congress, its righteous indignation fuelled by such as Mr White, press them too hard and the options might then begin to look different. Could not the Americans cool it a bit and start learning to resign themselves to the prospect that the days of American dominance over the non-communist world might be numbered?

If they get this angry about the Japanese challenge which has no military power behind it whatever, what in 20 or 30 years time will they be saying about the Chinese when their ten-times-bigger economy starts approaching Japanese levels of efficiency? A "yellow peril" racial dimension to super-power rivalry could then carry even more danger of accidental nuclear war than the ideological dimension of the present US-USSR rivalry.

And that, I suppose, is the strong argument against protectionism, particularly Japanese-targeted protectionism. Only if there is the same degree of economic interpretation and internationalisation of capital among the Pacific economies as there is among the Atlantic economies will the looming dangers begin to recede. And if there is some imbalance in consequence - with the Japanese owning more American industry than vice versa, as the Americans now own more of European industry than vice versa - so be it.

Yours faithfully,
R. P. DORE,
187 Surrenden Road,
Brighton,
Sussex.

BBC and terrorism

From the General Secretary of the Institute of Journalists

Sir, As a general principle it must be right to provide the public with the material it needs to form a proper judgement on or if there is the same degree of economic interpretation and internationalisation of capital among the Pacific economies as there is among the Atlantic economies will the looming dangers begin to recede. And if there is some imbalance in consequence - with the Japanese owning more American industry than vice versa, as the Americans now own more of European industry than vice versa - so be it.

Yours faithfully,
R. P. DORE,
187 Surrenden Road,
Brighton,
Sussex.

But this consideration can no longer apply to the *Real Lives* feature because we have blundered into a far worse situation. Extremists are now able to boast - and for the first time with some credibility - that the Government is afraid to let their case go before the British people for free judgment.

That it would help to rebut this claim is yet another merit of the proposal made by Mr Barry Cox and others in their letter published today (August 23). Yours faithfully,
R. F. FARMER, General Secretary,
Institute of Journalists,
Bedford Chambers,
Covent Garden, WC2.

NHS complaints

From the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and Health Service Commissioner

Sir, Please allow me to correct an error of fact in the article by Olivia Timbs. "When private care goes wrong" (August 21). Referring to the complaints procedures available to NHS patients she said: "Details of administrative bungles can be sent via your MP for the Ombudsman to investigate."

It is in my role as Health Service Commissioner that I investigate complaints about the activities of NHS authorities, family practitioner committees and their staffs, and in that role I am able to receive complaints direct from the complainant, although the authority concerned must first have been given the opportunity to respond.

In my role as Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration I investigate complaints about central Government departments, and it is complaints of that kind which can only come to me through a member of Parliament.

I would add that as Health Service Commissioner I can entertain complaints about failures in service as well as maladministration.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY BARROWCLOUGH,
Church House,
Great Smith Street, SW1.

A wider vision of Ulster's destiny

From Brigadier W. M. T. Magan

Sir, I refer to the heartening letter (August 15) from the Irish Northern Consensus Group of professional people, "representing both main traditions in Northern Ireland", in which they reveal a wide area of agreement on "the way forward towards a more stable and dynamic future" for Ulster. However, they are emphatic on two points:

1. "There must be no change in the existing link between Northern Ireland and Westminster without the consent of a majority in Northern Ireland" - as any such deliberate act of consent is inconceivable, that means that the "border" must stay.
2. They disagree "with those who claim that the present problems can only be solved in an all-Ireland context". In other words, nationalists North and South must give up the aim of a united Ireland, an equally inconceivable proposition as a deliberate act.

Is it not the case, however, that these views are now verging on the anachronistic, based as they are on the concept of "the nation state"? If that is so, and if we are eventually, long-term, to find a solution, we must - and the sooner the better - begin to think in broader and more modern terms.

Before the 15th century western Europe was not a continent of nation states; but between then and the 20th century it divided itself up into such states, largely on a linguistic basis. Since the Second World War the pattern has been progressively breaking down, financially, economically, commercially, linguistically, culturally and politically, into a new internationalism which is blurring the edges of nationalism.

The logical consequence of this is that we must think in wider terms than of a united Ireland, or an inviolate Ulster. Instead, we must

adopt for ourselves an image of our group of western islands, including both Britain and Ireland, as a possibly loosely integrated element of the western European international complex.

Surely we can see that the Irish "border" could then itself become increasingly blurred, and could very well slowly dissolve into comparative - if not total - insignificance, largely by progressive and detailed shared relationships in all possible fields of endeavour, without the need for acts of renunciation by either the South or the North?

Constitutional instruments would, no doubt, in due course follow, but as with the current working practice of *ecumenism* in many parishes in England, the barriers could be almost totally broken down on the ground long before it would be likely that acceptable constitutional instruments could be formulated to give the situation formal legality.

If, however, we go on thinking about the "border" as a fixed demarcation line between two old-fashioned nation states, then that is what we are likely to be stuck with.

"There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so." Thus, some different thinking on this subject might well be for good - and not just by governments but by us all. In place of the partition, not only of Ireland but of the British Isles, that took place in 1921, our vision - our thinking - of the future ought to be of at least some sort of loose unity of what Lord Hyton has termed this archipelago of Anglo-Celtic islands.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
W. M. T. MAGAN,
St Michael's House,
Pockham Bush,
Near Tonbridge,
Kent.
August 16.

Road to recovery?

From Professor K. W. Cattermole

Sir, Tim Congdon, in his article published yesterday (August 6), wonders why most people still think that Britain is suffering from a recession, despite the improvement in some of the economic indicators which he cites. The answer seems fairly plain to me.

Surely it must be an object of economic policy to encourage the effective application of resources to achieve useful ends. Over the whole of the period which Mr Congdon describes as "recovery" (1980-85) the Government has been telling us that we cannot attain many ends about which there is widespread concern, because as a nation we cannot afford them.

We cannot afford to reconstruct crumbling sewers built a century ago by people with a longer-range concern for public welfare than those in office today. We cannot afford to offer higher education to as many of our citizens as we did a few years ago (a number already small by comparison with other developed countries). We cannot afford to allot a modest increase in resources to health care so as to meet the needs of a longer-lived population. We

cannot afford adequate funding for research on which later generations of industrial products may well be based. And so on.

If we have the benefit of genuine economic growth, why all this retrenchment? Admitting that we cannot do everything at once, surely there could be some sign of progress somewhere. To the ordinary man it seems especially irrational that so many things can't be done at a time when so many people are involuntarily out of work. And if it be said that this is not just a matter of numbers, there is a mismatch between needs and available skills, then cutbacks in education and training are in any but the shortest run a false economy.

For me, the conjunction of unused resources and unfulfilled needs is a clear enough indication that the economy is still not working properly. I shall believe in a recovery when at least one, and preferably both, of these factors show some improvement.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH CATERMOLE,
Fairacre,
Caudish Road,
East Bergholt,
Colchester,
Essex.
August 7.

Release of Mandela

From Professor Lalage Bawn and Mr Emil Rado

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr J. D. Tunnicliffe (August 31), asks an unfair question. He asks, in effect, "What do you expect, a legally elected government to do but lock up a man like Mandela, when he admits that he is ready to overthrow that government, by force, if necessary?"

The relevant questions in our view are these:
First, how can the black 70 per cent of the population of South Africa express its opposition to a political system that has deprived it of all its constitutional and political

rights, and most of its civil rights, and is avowedly determined to rule them, not by democratic consent but by naked force?

Second, were the South African Government to announce its willingness to reform its Constitution that blacks as well as whites would be ruled by laws they had a hand in making, is there any reason to believe that Mr Mandela and his fellow leaders of the ANC would not respond in kind and renounce violence as a political weapon?

Yours, etc.
LALAGE BAWN,
EMIL RADO,
c/o College Club,
University of Glasgow,
Glasgow.
August 22.

Too many prisoners

From Mr Martin Wright

Sir, This week and next (August 26 - September 6) the United Nations will hold its five-yearly Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, in Milan. This country's representatives will be uneasily conscious that our prison population is at a record level, and that we send more people to prison than our European neighbours, as pointed out in your columns by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (report, August 20) and the Chairman of the Howard League (feature, August 20). In the United States, South Africa, the Soviet Union and regrettably some Third World countries, the position is even worse.

The baleful effects of imprisonment have been described often enough. What is often not understood is that reformers are not merely disturbed by the suffering of the offender and his family, though the degradation of overworking and the denial of basic rights are scandalous enough. The concern is at the injustice: imprisonment is our severest punishment, and should not be used, as it often is, on petty offenders.

In some countries the majority of prisoners have not even been tried yet. Moreover, the public is put at risk: politicians who pretend that crime can be checked by putting ever more people in prison for longer periods provide an excuse to slacken the search for methods more likely to work.

More promising approaches do exist. Preventive strategies aimed at specific forms of crime are being put into effect by Macro, the Home Office, and some sections of the police. Non-custodial sanctions such as community service orders, day centres and ordinary probation work well, with a few side-effects, at low

cost, but are curtailed by lack of funds, while millions are spent on new prisons.

There is growing interest in reparation by offenders to victims, which can lead to reconciliation between them.

It is time for someone to shout, "The emperor has no clothes." Prisons do not protect society (except from the dangerous few). The Howard League will therefore seek to propose to the UN Congress that there should be an international working group on the reduction of crime with minimum use of imprisonment.

We hope that it will be supported by the United Kingdom and other delegations; and that there will be progress to report by the next congress in 1990 (which is, appropriately, the bicentenary of the death of the prison reformer, John Howard).

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN WRIGHT,
107 Palace Road, SW2,
August 21.

Working to rule

From Mr Nicholas Farrow

Sir, I am about to move to a new flat in a different telephone exchange area. I received from British Telecom the contracts, which were duly signed and returned.

Below my name on the contract is printed my new telephone number. Yesterday I called BT to confirm the accuracy of the number in order to circulate it.

Upon my repeating the number to the operator, she first asked: "Will you be ex-directory?" to which I replied, "Yes."

"Then I can't tell you," she answered.
Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS FARROW,
215 Kiburn Park Road, NW6,
August 22.

ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 27 1980

"On this Day" has featured the first from the first Glynedebourne. Both these events are still with us and although "the four young graduates" are no longer together they still so much a part of the entertainment world that a reminder of their first steps to fame is not out of place.

MIDNIGHT GAITY IN EDINBURGH

REVUE THAT IS REALLY FUNNY

FROM OUR DRAMATIC CRITIC

EDINBURGH, Aug 26

Soon after the Edinburgh Festival began the visiting companies of amateur actors on its fringe made two discoveries of consequence. One was that after performing a thundering five-act tragedy or a stage biography in 40 scenes their youthful passion for acting remained quite fresh. The other was that, though Edinburgh, even in festival time, goes to bed early, there was no difficulty in filling their little theatres twice a night by following the plays with late revues. This year official recognition has been given to the popularity of these midnight entertainments. Beyond the *Pringle*, which fills the Lyceum Theatre soon after the curtain has fallen on *The Seagull*, seems by its title to advance the claim that what the Fringe has been doing according to the Fringe is the Edinburgh Festival Society can do even more acceptably. Considering the brilliance of some of the Fringe's revues this claim might be considered somewhat rash. Luckily the Society is able to make it good.

The revue put on by four young graduates of Oxford and Cambridge wearing dark but informal clothes on a stage virtually bare of props is a really funny affair. It evokes the style of Shaftesbury Avenue, and though some of the items seem disconcertingly to have shed their tails, they all reach a decent level of sophisticated humour and deft clowning. The little company is led by Mr Jonathan Miller.

This was a tall, slightly shrekked-looking undergraduate who seemed to theatre managers during a visit of the Cambridge Footlights to London some years ago to take to stage comedy as a duck to the water and afterwards disappointed them by entering the medical profession. Everything he does in the present revue certainly suggests that a natural clown has been lost to the professional stage. Nothing could be better than his skit on the comedy of Professor A. J. Ayer conducting a philosophical discussion on the television screen. It is decidedly hard on the Conservative Party that Mr Miller should so much enjoy reproducing the Prime Minister's vocal and literary style and should reproduce it so devastatingly well. For the party is thus made to bear the whole weight of the ridicule that might otherwise be fairly distributed among politicians in general.

Mr Peter Cook, who also learnt to act at Cambridge gives Mr Miller an extremely competent opposite number. He makes a curiously real character of the yearning and ludicrous old man who has always wanted to be a judge but never had the Latin for it and a repellent, whooping impediment of speech which he sadly suppresses would anyway have detracted from the dignity of the court. Mr Alan Bennett and Mr Dudley Moore from Oxford are variously useful as comic stages. Mr Bennett comes into his own with a wittily written and realistically declaimed parody of a sermon, and Mr Moore turns out to be something of a virtuoso on the piano as he demonstrates how certain composers might colour with their personal idiom the tune of Colonel Bogey. They all combine in a spirit pastiche.

The pleasantness of this revue is difficult to put down in words. It keeps the midnight audiences in a continual ripple of easy laughter. The reason may be that each performer is only confident of his own power to amuse and also that the comedy is ruled by a nice sense of proportion.

Voting in the Lords

From Lord Moyne

Sir, Lord Belfort's letter of August 9 provides a valid explanation of the disciplined strength of the Opposition parties in the House of Lords, but it omits to mention that many hereditary peers feel that their presence is justified as members of a jury chosen by chance but with an inherited background of interest in public affairs who are obliged to consider issues on their merits.

This need not drive them to sit on the cross-benches. The enlightened attitude of Conservative Whips is that their backbench colleagues are justified in voting according to conscience on the one condition of hearing the Government's case. That is why there is rightly no rigidly inbuilt Conservative majority.

Mr Roth's comment of August 17 that some hereditary peers are kept away by outside interests is valid as far as it goes though such interests need not involve vast estates. One of the justifications of irregular attendance may arise from geographical distance that goes with expertise in local conditions. It is a strength of the Upper House that such members living far away do not seek leave of absence even if they can only attend when a subject of particular concern to them arises.

The Conservative practice of voting according to conscience on hearing both sides of the case is at the root of the democratic process. That whipping has to be firmer in the Commons is only perhaps justified by the need for strong Government which does not arise in the Lords with our more limited powers.

Yours faithfully,
MOYNE,
Biddenden House, Andover,
Hampshire.

Technical hitch

From Mr Peter Gass

Sir, When, as a young man, I hitched a lift, I used to promise myself that when I had a car I would repay some future generation of people hitching. However, I find that nowadays there are not enough hitch-hikers to go round. Why is this?

Yours,
PETER GASS,
10 Seaward Avenue,
Bournemouth, Hampshire.

THE ARTS



Away draw

Of all the hundreds of Fringe productions paying for attention this summer, two comic entertainments playing to full houses provide a salutary contrast in style and achievement. The one is humorous and dull, the other witty and absorbing.

It was at the Fringe last year that the Hull Truck Company's tongue-in-cheek saga of a no-hope Rugby League team ran away with the Laurence Olivier Award. Subsequently it transferred to the West End, where I thought the obviousness of the script was salvaged by an inventive production and full-blooded playing. Now Up 'n' Under II plucks the Wheatsheaf team from the jaws of defeat and sets them on course for victory.

This is a very late review, but it must be fair to say that the company has been playing to the gallery these last three weeks and that this has had a detrimental effect on whatever fine qualities John Godber's production may have kicked off with. A sycophantic audience is one thing; for the players to ask that audience at the show's climax whether they have won the match or not is something else again. This is a tacky, tired old waltz which the Assembly Room's dodgy acoustics do nothing to better.

Mr Godber's script is humorous; his characters are recognisable people, their personalities slightly heightened. Here is the contrast. At the Metherbow Arts Centre Kerry Shale nightly gives a bravura one-man dramatization of John Kennedy Toole's luminous novel *A Confederacy of Dunces*. In a slightly different adaptation to the one he delivered on BBC Radio 1 *Bank At Bedtime* three years ago. Here is artistry, here is wit.

Mr Shale ably illuminates Toole's portrait of a man born out of his time: the gross, bellowing, caustic, mother's boy Ignatius J. Reilly, with his defective "valve" and his dignified "world view" which is hilariously at odds with the mean-mindedness and vulgarity of the New Orleans of the 1920s, and he renders a dozen plus characters (as well as the schematic inventor) with dazzling skill. This consummate juggling act is a natural contender for the Perrier Award, although something rather more robust might spring to mind with which to celebrate Mr Shale's achievement.

Martin Cropper

Concert

Kevin Volans

ICA

Even if it means merely chopping up somebody else's work and putting it back together again in a different way, I am all in favour of experimental music. But the latest concert in this year's Musica series really did stretch one's patience. It featured three works by the South African-born composer Kevin Volans for two pianos, along with pieces composed by pupils of his, all too obviously under his direct influence.

The best of Volans represented here was probably *Nine Beginnings*, written in Cologne (where he studied with Stockhausen and Kagel) in 1976 and signalling, apparently, the rise of the so-called "New Simplicity" in German music. For simplicity means blandness, for, although Volans uses a harmonic vocabulary that is potentially expressive, the deliberate limitations he places upon rhythmic variety and the hardness of the whole conception hardly endear the work readily to the ear.

In *Leaping Dance* (1984) and *Knocking Dance* (1985) Volans capriciously contrasts different types of pattern music, making use of virtuosic rapid interchanges between the two instruments. The effect is only superficially exciting, however, and in this performance, for all the splendid efforts of the pianists, Gustave Fenyó and Peter Seivewright, most of the entertainment came from watching the valiant page-turners keep up with things.

Of the three pupils, much the most convincing was the Milanese composer Matteo Fargion, whose *Piano, Oboe and Double Bass* (1984) exploited the now established principle (cf. Tippett) of contrasting different musical types, be they melodic, metrical or articulative. Fargion achieves both momentum and pregnancy in this determinedly expressive work, as also he does in the more simplistic world of *Piece for Two Pianos* (1984), which consists of "inorganic" variations on a melodic line.

Earlier, Pieter Smil's Trio, again for piano, oboe (Christopher Redgate) and double bass (Paul Spry), contained too many literal sequences and did nothing interesting with the major chords around which it is constructed.

Stephen Pettitt

Galleries

Monumentally mysterious

Buddhism: Art and Faith
British Museum

Symbols of Power at the Time of Stonehenge
National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland, Edinburgh

It is often hard enough trying to assess the significance in art of some philosophical, religious or political system we understand reasonably well, whether we accept its tenets in their proper sphere or not. We can take refuge, of course, in saying that what matters artistically is not how much the basic ideas mean to us, but how much they meant to the artist, how effectively they triggered him or her into artistic creation.

You do not, we may say, have to be a Roman Catholic to appreciate Bernini, a Communist to appreciate Eisenstein, a Nazi to appreciate Riefenstahl, a Jew to appreciate Chagall, and so on. Indeed, in each case it may actually help if you are not, since that way the role of association, the latent of preaching to the converted, will be kept at a respectable aesthetic distance. Or so we say. But where are we when something even more alien intrudes on our calculations? Where are we — and where should we be — with a show like the British Museum's combined operation *Buddhism: Art and Faith* (until January 5)?

It is, probably, the sort of show it is best to go into knowing either everything or nothing. For those of us who know nothing, it contrives to be extremely helpful, giving a crash-course in the origins and development of the body of

belief and some good clues to the way it has shaped the art of several major Asian cultures. For those who know everything, it brings out and puts together the Buddhist masterpieces of the two relevant national collections, and is not too pushy about forcing information on those who already know it, so that the labels can be conveniently ignored. (In one or two instances you have to crouch on the floor with some source of illumination you have brought in with you in order to read them anyway.)

If nothing else, one's knowledge of what Buddhism was and is, and of how it is represented in painting and sculpture and manuscript in important sections of Britain's national patrimony, should be immensely enhanced by a visit to the show.

But what then? How would we react to the art, as art, if all this information were denied us? And how, if at all, does the intake of information improve and refine our aesthetic response? These are much more difficult questions to answer. I had best at once come clean, and say that for me the show was informative but rather dull. So many benignly smiling Buddhas sitting or standing in monumental immobility which presumably represents philosophical calm face-to-face with the Infinite. So many almost indistinguishable figures of disciples or even of displaced deities from previous religions which have somehow been absorbed into the Buddhist world-view. Though there are of course local variations depending on date and country of origin, the overriding impression is one of uniformity, which speaks well, no doubt, for the efficacy of Buddhism as a system of beliefs and a way of life, but does not make for the most exciting art.

That, possibly, is the point. Art, as such, is subtly



A more readily appealing Japanese Buddhist portrait, in lacquered and painted wood, c.1700; and a cape of sheet gold found on a male skeleton at Mold in Wales

irrelevant to the Buddhist world: each individual work is purely functional, like a kitchen-pot, made for a particular use in channelling the activities of the mind, and hardly at all for its own sake as an independent work of art, following its own rules and exerting its own self-sufficient appeal. That at least is the impression one receives, and the message which seems to come over from the works and the catalogue's detailed explanations of them.

Perhaps the other side of my opening equation applies: if you do not need to be a Catholic to appreciate Bernini, maybe you do need to be a Buddhist to appreciate most of the works here, or to understand fully the ways in which you are not meant to appreciate them.

Western, non-Buddhist visitors quite possibly arrive with their minds cluttered with irrelevant expectations, and are berating totally admirable kitchen-pots for not being the finest, most impractical, severe, porcelain, applying the standards of the striving, individualistic West to the fatalistic, non-competitive East, which strives for nothing, except ultimate extinction.

Given all that, it must also be admitted that there is quite a lot to enjoy, if for all the wrong reasons. Local variations in the doctrine introduce a number of colourful aliens like the Tantric *kyuzoku*, fierce manifestations of Buddhism who tend to look a lot more like Hindu gods and demonstrate anything but philosophic calm as they trample on the less approved

manifestations of the cosmos, to quite lively effect. Some of the pots and metal objects connected with Buddhist ritual are very beautiful, and the abstract stupa are often stunning in their grace and simplicity. The beginning of the tradition in representing the Buddha often produces a finely monumental effect, reducing mere humanity to its true, insignificant proportions — though here, admittedly, one is also aware that practical limitations of size restrict the proper representation of some of Buddhism's grandest artworks.

Towards the end of the period covered, the Japanese contribution becomes the most immediately appealing, if only because Buddhist subject-matter — legends and dignitaries — beguiling Guinevere, Tom McDonnell sang a resonant Arthur, destroyed between the machinations of Morgan le Fay (Mary King) and Merlin (the splendid Michael Rippon). But before he ennobled himself and his listeners in Arthur's "Elegy on Camelot".

Noel Goodwin

Opera

Lancelot
Arundel Castle

Those who thought romantic opera was extinct would have found it flowering again in the attractive setting of the Tillyard at Arundel Castle at the weekend, when Iain Hamilton's *Lancelot*, commissioned for the Arundel Festival, was given its premiere. It was a gamble for the festival to risk an opera at all and a new one at that, and doubly so to give it a fresco in prevailing weather conditions.

The rain which briefly interrupted its first performance held off altogether on Sunday night, allowing Hamilton's

abstraction of the Arthurian legend to be heard to advantage in both words and music. His own libretto takes from Malory only the half-dozen principal characters for a tragedy of self-destructive love, which can be read as allegorical of great dynasties or of lesser domesticity, though without the redemptive theme of *Tristan and Isolde*.

As the composer explained in a pre-performance talk, his music is essentially a mosaic of motifs structured on specific centres which bind the texture together. That texture is beautifully fashioned for clarity of word-setting in relation to a small orchestra (the Orchestra of St John's, Smith Square), and the open-air acoustic was surpris-

ingly kind to the singers under Chris Nance, who also conducted the ENO's recent revival of Hamilton's *Anna Karenina*.

Moving against trees and borders in a spare production by Aidan Lang that depended chiefly on Ian Callender's resourceful lighting, the singers and instrumentalists overcame the increasingly damp and chill night air to unfold not so much a love story as a commentary on one.

Costumed by Peter Farmer with a sense of Pre-Raphaelite sentiment, they sought new life in old legend. John Harris was the ardent Lancelot, whose madness remained vocally disciplined, with Anne Williams King a young and

beguiling Guinevere. Tom McDonnell sang a resonant Arthur, destroyed between the machinations of Morgan le Fay (Mary King) and Merlin (the splendid Michael Rippon). But before he ennobled himself and his listeners in Arthur's "Elegy on Camelot".

What seemed lacking on first impression was a strength of musical character to keep high romance from slipping into low sentiment, and so "save from enchantment" which seemed to herald the waste land "as one of them sings. Maybe the time is out of joint, and the waste land is already too much upon us."

Noel Goodwin

Lakeside tradition

La Bohème
Torre del Lago

The Puccini Festival at Torre del Lago was inaugurated in 1930, six years after the composer's death, with a performance of *La Bohème* conducted by Pietro Mascagni. The tradition, although broken for many years, is now reflected in an annual summer event on the lakeside where Puccini lived and worked.

This year *La Bohème* was given a straightforward new production by the festival's artistic director, Luciano Alberti, in acts by Umberto Bertacca. His occasionally wayward ideas — such as the noisily retreating walls which shattered the musical spell at the end of the Act I — were outweighed by his clever handling of Café Momus: the Bohemians dined in an upstairs gallery, perfectly placed spectators for Musetta's "commedia stupenda" on the stage below.

Mimi was by Fiamma Izzo d'Amico, who in spite of her youth is already experienced in this role. She has a clear, full-toned voice, secure and evenly produced throughout the range, which she uses in an admirably direct and unmanipulated way. If she can acquire greater dynamic control and shape her music with more individuality she will

be a Mimi of class. Alida Ferrarini sang and acted excellently as Musetta, although her pure, slender tone and refined phrasing were rather at odds with the character's brassy exhibitionism.

Best of the men was Roberto Scanduzzi as Colline, whose impressive resonant bass made one long to hear him sing something more extended than this opera allows. Franco Farina's pliant phrasing and alert acting made him an attractive Rodolfo, but he had to force his small voice to produce enough power for the climaxes. Alberto Rinaldi was a dry-voiced Marcello.

Emil Tchakaroff gave a firmly-controlled, well-paced account of the score, but it is impossible to comment on the Philharmonic Orchestra of Budapest. Opera, beyond acknowledging that it provided a completely played outline of the music, in the open air all but the bluntest instrumental detail was lost.

The worst feature of this *Bohème*, however, was its length — three interminable intervals stretched less than two hours of music to four hours. Continuous and concentrated progress was disrupted, and the essence of the opera seemed to evaporate into the warm night air.

Nigel Jamieson



Set of the inaugural Bohème at Torre del Lago in 1930

One still hears it said that music is an international language, but really the idea becomes pretty hard to maintain after five minutes' conversation with any composer from abroad. Every country naturally is prejudiced towards performing its own composers, which produces in Poland, Germany and Brazil, as it does here, a quite particular flavour of creative music-making. And no doubt this is all to the good, though there is no reason why a little more communication should not enrich the diverse dialects.

That has been the purpose of the workshops held over a summer weekend each year at Lerchenborg in Denmark, and providing an opportunity for Danish composers to meet and work with foreign musicians. There have been exchanges with French, Dutch and Polish composers, and now it is the turn of the English: this year the Arditi Quartet were invited to bring over some music and to work on Danish scores *in situ*.

Paul Griffiths reports from Lerchenborg in Denmark, where the Arditi Quartet this year helped in the annual attempt to prove that music needs no Tower of Babel

Fruitful misunderstandings

next year Harrison Birtwistle and Oliver Knussen are due to be present.

Lerchenborg is a large eighteenth-century house set in a park of lime trees and roses, the home of Louise Lerchenborg, whose husband was the distinguished composer and musical ethnologist Poul Rovsing Olsen. Karl Hamnøy, a lively Norwegian mezzo, courtously included four of his fine, pensive songs in her recital. Otherwise proceedings were very much in the hands of the Arditi, who generously gave a public rehearsal of pieces by young composers, including two or three of seemingly little practical sense, besides working

at two substantial new pieces for their evening concert.

Th Norholm's *En passant*, his seventh string quartet, opened in strenuously argumentative fashion but then surprised by going through phases of quite different sorts of activity, and then surprised again by suddenly returning to its starting point before a final excursion, suggesting that many other departures might have been entertained. Norholm's relationship with the players in rehearsal was difficult but exacting, quietly obliging them to execute what he had imagined: one gained some inkling of why he is so widely respected among younger composers for his wisdom and tolerance, even

if his creative personality would seem diffuse.

Karl Aage Rasmussen, in his late thirties and a member of the next generation, is more definite in his attitudes. Indeed, his presence at the workshop was the occasion for heated dispute, which being conducted in Danish, was sadly not accessible to me, though it seemed to have something to do with his belief that music today must be self-conscious in dealing with materials that already have a history.

I can be a shade more certain about his piece for the Arditi, *Surrounded by Swans*, which was only surrounded, but virtually brain-washed its per-

formers with scalar material, alluding apparently to a couple of two-part inventions by Bach, though the unappreciated listener might well have thought of Tartini. There was much vigorous scrubbing, becoming more or less wild as the piece progressed, punctuated by celestial images in harmonics of the music that might have been. These two characters were alternated in each of the four movements, and the point of having four at all seemed to be only to provide an extra layer of historical reference.

Rasmussen's work was heard alongside two recent English quartets: Roger Redgate's intricate lightning-storm of a piece, and James Wood's more earth-bound work. Danish listeners, though, were perhaps more impressed by the ensemble's performance of Nielsen's *F major Quartet*, described by one as "X-Ray Nielsen", and instancing just that sort of creative misunderstanding which appears to be so fruitful at Lerchenborg.

Television

Extravagant detail

One of the significant features of Berlin Alexanderplatz (Channel 4) is the fact that the series has been able to recreate the phantasmagoric quality of the late Twenties in Berlin by combining meticulous detail with an almost operatic extravagance. Certainly this was notable in last night's episode when the director, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, expressed his almost comically bleak attitude towards human and sexual relationships by describing Franz Biberkopf's umorous adventures. The women were passed almost literally from hand to mouth, and these brief affairs were marked by what is becoming a characteristic mixture of the brutal and the sentimental.

It is a long production (Channel 4 have shown some inventiveness in screening it), and as a result it allowed Fassbinder a more measured or deliberate pace than was usually possible in his films. But it is still recognizably his work, no less in the brilliance of his visual sense than in the bravura

with which he used the camera. This does create a slightly odd effect, however, and it is as if everything were taking place in an echo-chamber — but that is acceptable enough, since it is the chamber of Fassbinder's imagination.

Franz Biberkopf is in an odd case a wonderful creation to rather, since the production is adapted from the novel by Alfred Döblin, a recreation, and is brilliantly played here by Gunter Lamprecht as hoil lumph and good-humoured naive and cunning he is the peasant lost louse in an urban environment. There is always an air of pathos about him, and in fact a tone of general dereliction invades all of the characters in this film so that Fassbinder is able to evoke lives in desperate and impoverished times, as they wander aimlessly through Berlin as already haunted by the future *Berlin Alexanderplatz*: even his notable achievement.

Peter Ackroyd

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COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS

Edited by Matthew May

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'A million good reasons' for renting a micro

By Ian White

Apple may have been the only manufacturer to let you take a computer home to try for a day or two with its "test drive a Macintosh" promotion earlier this year.

But there is no reason why anyone wishing to try out most of the other leading micros should not be able to take one away for as long as necessary without actually buying it. All you have to do is rent it.

The renting of personal computers is now becoming big business. CCA/Micro Rentals started a year ago and now turns over £450,000, while its competitor Micro Rent is a £1m operation after 18 months.

There are two other big players in the rental game - Hamiltons and MBS. However, they do not normally enter into agreements of less than three months and renting is only part of their overall activities as distributors.

According to Micro Rent's director Alexander Skeaping, there are "a million reasons" why people rent micros instead of leasing or buying them.

Mr Skeaping says: "Many companies will not allow employees to purchase computers. But usually employees have enough authority to sign the amount of a rental."

"We also rent out machines to companies carrying out software training courses. Then there is the overflow demand at the end of financial years when there are not enough in-house computers to cope."

"There is an enormous cross-section of people who rent and we usually have several hundred machines out at any one time. The flexibility of renting is such that, subject to status, we can get you a machine within two hours in London and next day for the rest of the country. If people decide to buy, a proportion of the rent is deducted."

CCA/Micro Rentals originated from the container renting service from its Swiss backers ASG Finance and now has micro rental centres in Paris and Geneva.

Its director Graham Hallett

says his company deals mainly with computer-literate corporate clients, although there is some demand from private customers who just want to get their hands on a computer before making the decision to purchase.

Neither CCA nor Micro Rent is keen to include software manufacturers strictly prohibiting hiring out programs. "What we can't do is buy a copy of a program and then copy it to rent out. We try to avoid renting software as much as possible," says Mr Skeaping. The most popular machines and printers, which of course means IBM as well as Apple and Atari. Rates vary from around £38 a day for a 256K IBM PC to £155 a month for a two-year contract on a £12K colour PC. CCA/Micro Rentals's top price is £125 for a day's hire of an IBM PC-AT.

Rather than take cash deposits, both companies are normally satisfied with a credit card reference. Mr Hallett says: "We've had very few problems in this area. We've only lost one machine through theft, and it was covered by insurance. The people who hire machines are usually experienced users who know what they are doing."

At Micro Rent Mr Skeaping relies on gut feel in deciding whether a customer is going to abscond with the goods. "We've only had three machines walk away. After a while you get a feel for the type of people you are dealing with. We check them out with a credit card company."

Both companies insist they will not persuade anybody to rent when it would be better for that customer to purchase. Three months is usually the limit for renting. After that time buying or leasing seems to be a better proposition.

Mr Skeaping says: "A rental company is a good place to go for unbiased information. We've seen all the machines and we know which ones we would recommend. We have no reason to push one micro over another."

Machines undercut Asia's cheap labour

By Steven Galante

The Fairchild Camera Instrument group is using automated machines to weld semiconductor chips on to metal frames, work once performed almost exclusively by hand in South-East Asia.

As wages in South-East Asia are far lower than in the United States, semiconductor makers have made considerable savings by getting labour-intensive work done abroad.

However, machines can now mount circuits on to their metal frames, wire the circuits in place and test the finished product for flaws, all far more rapidly than humans can.

An Asian worker using manual equipment can wire 120 integrated circuits to their frames in an hour. By contrast, one of Fairchild's automated machines in Portland can wire 640 an hour. One person can monitor eight machines at a time, so the output per head is a stunning 5,120 circuits an hour.

When transport and inventory costs are added, for example, it becomes more economical to assemble chips at a US plant than at an Asian plant.

Manufacturers are unlikely to scrap their existing Asian facilities just to replace them with automated US plants, but companies will build new lines onshore.

Automation itself is not prompting the chip-makers to bring assembly back home,

rather, economic changes are making it more important for producers to have assembly operations close to customers. Automation, however, is making that economically possible for the first time in years.

Machinery makers and other manufacturers who use integrated circuits in their products are trying to cut overheads by adopting the "just in time" inventory control methods that help to make Japanese companies so competitive.

Another nudge towards on-shore assembly is coming from a shift in product emphasis. For years US semiconductor companies made their bread and butter on memory chips, produced in batches of hundreds of thousands. But Japanese manufacturers have largely captured that market, so US companies have decided to concentrate on logic chips designed for specific applications.

These application-specific circuits are produced in batches as small as 10,000. They are also far more expensive, selling for \$100 each. Memory chips, by comparison, often sell at \$1 or less.

The shorter production runs and higher prices increase the risks associated with assembling circuits offshore. When a mistake is discovered, an entire production run might have been completed. And if the assembly and testing are done overseas, the error may take weeks or months to rectify.

Star Wars put into perspective

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

Today more than 1,000 delegates will meet in London for a conference of major significance to the computer industry and the society it serves. Those attending at the convention at Imperial College are professionals who are becoming increasingly aware of the social and ethical responsibilities placed on designers of computer software.

Among the many technical issues discussed will be the feasibility of producing software capable of correctly implementing the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), popularly known as Star Wars.

Tutorials for many of the delegates - from more than 35 countries - will be held today, before the conference begins tomorrow.

The chairman, Professor Manny Lehman, from Imperial College, opens the session. He believes that software and its proper design are not only fundamental building blocks of the modern computer-dependent society but that it must be written with the war in mind.

He will tell the conference: "The problems, challenges and opportunities faced by software engineers may appear scientific and technical, but solutions found and implemented will have a widespread and profound impact. The consequences of our work are universal, playing a critical role in determining the nature and the quality of the societies in which we live and work."

"The next decade presents the software engineering community with even greater challenges and responsibilities. Innovation in computers continues apace."

"Announcement of the Japanese fifth-generation plan and a growing awareness of some - unfortunately not all - of the implications of information technology has captured the attention of the media and of governments the world-over."

"But these technologies have not been tuned by exposure in usage in critical applications. Nor do those who explore and develop them appear to give sufficient attention to the problem of achieving continued correctness of the systems they construct. The transition from experimental to full scale systems is not trivial."

Lehman wants to ensure that the delegates are aware of the social consequences of their programs, and systems, but as chairman he will attempt to direct the speakers to the technical issues and avoid public debates on the politics or ethics of particular systems.

"The urgent need is for rigorous processes that facilitate the beneficial application of computers; that prevent the harmful consequences of the implementation and operation of well intentioned computer applications," says Lehman.

The SDI discussion will test Lehman's ability. The discussion will raise issues which for many delegates are more than technical though the technical debates will themselves provoke enough controversy.

How to avoid any more decisions

By Geoff Wheelwright

The human components of many large corporations are now considering the purchase of "expert system" software which will allow computers to make decisions for them. The expert system software operates by allowing executives to build a so-called "knowledge base" which tells the computer all the factors which go into making a decision. These are described by a series of rules which make clear the priorities and required information for a given decision.

The exchange between expert system and computer managing director might go something like this...

MD: I am £10 million in debt. I have £20 million in left-over stock, three attempts by American-Italian consortiums to save me have failed and the price of my company's stock has been reduced to 5p. What should I do?

System: How many products do you have?

MD: Ten - ranging from the ZX81v-44 to the Clone PC-Plus.

System: How many distributors do you have?

MD: 250.

System: Shall I make a recommendation based on this information?

MD: Yes, please.

System: You should first dump your compatibles on the vertical markets (see Rule 10: IBM compatibility/large stock holdings - big discounts, and special deals). You should bundle lots of software, cassette recorders and disc drives with your home computers (see Rule 15: Big overdrift + Big stock of home machines = bundling) and you should cease production of all machines more than two years old (Rule 1: Beauty before age).

The problem in getting a computer to make even the most primary of these decisions is in getting together the right set of rules - and enough of them - to form an adequate knowledge base.

But recent advances in micro-computer technology, pricing and program design have meant that expert systems can be constructed within as little as \$12K of computer memory. One such system, XI from the Slough-based Expertech group, is currently being tested by several major corporations.



Far from elementary: Scotland Yard's new computerized central command centre

Holmes helps the police

By Maggie McLening

Britain's police are attempting to turn criticism about the Yorkshire Ripper investigations to constructive use, despite objections from the National Council for Civil Liberties. The Ripper murder inquiry highlighted an urgent need for a standard, computerized system for handling major incidents, with cross-border links. The Home Office has just issued a circular to all 51 police forces recommending that they adopt one of five alternative systems developed to the Holmes (Home Office Large Major Enquiry System) specification.

While admitting the efficiency benefits of a computerized incident room, the NCCL is calling for public consultation on holding personal information before installation starts.

The Home Office had been exploring possibilities since 1974 but it was the Ripper inquiry that transformed looking into action. A full specification for Holmes was published in August 1984 after an experiment codenamed Miriam (Major Incident Room Information) carried out in the Essex police area. Some forces could not wait for Holmes to be developed, and adopted a common interim solution also recommended by the Home Office. But they are likely to upgrade their systems now that the first Holmes products are starting to appear.

Holmes is divided into three main parts, the second two of which are optional but improve its scope and efficiency. A complex indexing system forms the backbone and is essential where items of evidence have to be cross-checked quickly, with some items perhaps listed under 10 or more different categories. The second part deals with cross-border incidents, enabling different forces to pool their findings. But surprisingly, high speed communications are not included because of the different hardware used across the country and information is transferred by transporting physically a magnetic tape dump between computers.

The final part is a searching package.

Several of the companies that have developed Holmes packages are already suppliers of other types of police or emergency service software. Honeywell, which was involved in Miriam, has already sold its version to Staffordshire and Essex forces. The software house IAL Gemini is about to announce its first sale in the north of England.

They recently signed a £450,000 contract to produce Crime (Crime Reporting, Indexing, Management and Enquiry System) for the Cleveland Police Force. But the company expects financial restrictions to dictate a hardware independent solution to buyers. It was the only developer to base its version of Holmes on the Unix operating system.

"We chose this approach because most police forces have

already got hardware and budgetary limitations which mean they can't afford to buy any more," explained Brian Oxley, consultant to IAL Gemini and a former policeman.

The NCCL does not object to Holmes itself, although its legal officer, Marie Staunton, said the council has not been allowed to see a copy of the specification despite repeated requests. It is the as yet undecided fate of the information stored that is causing concern.

"We accept that in major incidents it is necessary for the police to collect large amounts of information, and that through this they also discover many minor offences. Our concern is afterwards and what happens to the data, which is after all a collection of hearsay, speculation and gossip mixed with hard fact," she said.

Brian Harris, a manager at IAL Gemini, said the recommendations of the Younger and Lindop Committees have been built into the Holmes specification and that there is a highly sophisticated password security system protecting sensitive data. This took one-third of total development time to write.

The Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset is chairing a committee drawn from the Association of Chief Police Officers to look at the question, but Marie Staunton said there is to be "no public consultation".

She said she has written to the Registrar for Data Protection asking him to look into the matter.

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Cash in on a retraining course

By Jane Lawrence

The idea that once you are trained in one aspect of computing you have a job for life is proving to be something of a myth.

Computing has been held up to be one of the few sectors where job possibilities keep on growing. It is true - as long as employees are able to increase their skills in an industry that is failing to recruit young and dynamic people for first-time training.

But it is becoming apparent that the shortage is exacerbated by moves and changes within the industry.

New trends in the way computers are programmed means that new skills are increasingly needed.

And a major move towards buying computers from the world's largest supplier, IBM, means that employees who have become skilled on their systems are at a premium.

On the programming side, the Cobol language is almost 30 years old and others are also ageing. So some users are starting to buy new software tools which simplify the process of making the computer do what you want it to do.

There is still debate about how many are taking that route.

JOB SCENE

Recruitment consultant Les King maintains that there is great reluctance to a large scale change-over, and that users are wary about keeping up with trends in case they turn out to be "just fashion".

But many big companies are taking on new, so-called fourth generation products and hence need similarly skilled people to get out of them.

The general move towards IBM computers is adding to users' headaches.

Many companies are standardizing on the American supplier - often at the expense of UK mainframe firm ICL - and it means that the number of IBM-experienced staff is no longer

large enough to handle all the IBM equipment being installed.

British Telecom is just one organization to be stung by such a move after deciding to dual source its machines, using both ICL and IBM.

The general situation looks like it can only get worse. The Government has said that the industry shortfall for information technology - now at 1,500 - will reach 5,000 by 1988.

Yet it says employers are falling down by failing to invest in the development of their resources. On average companies spend less than one per cent of turnover on training. So the only certainty is that entrepreneurial employees can make a mint if they identify where the biggest shortfall lies and get themselves retrained.

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

The great little disc with a mine of information

By Roger Woolnough

When Geoffrey Bate joined IBM in the United States, one of the research projects he went to work on was a system of optical storage for computers. More than 25 years later, and with another company, Bate has finally solved the problem. The years of effort seem to have been worth it, for the product is now taking shape in little short of astonishing. A tiny 3 1/2 in disc can store at least 1 megabyte of formatted information - equivalent to 20,000 typewritten pages.

That is only part of it. Unlike other optical discs, this one is erasable, so that data can be changed just as with a floppy disk. The optical discs will slip into a low-cost drive unit, small enough to form part of a personal computer.

The breakthrough is based on a technology called thermomagneto-optical recording, and has been achieved by Bate's team at Verbatim Corporation in Sunnyvale, California, which he joined in 1978.

"People have known of the possibility of storing information in computers in this way for many years," says Bate. "IBM never really got around to doing it, but every five years we revisited optical recording. Always the project came unglued - one vital component would be missing."

The technology could even record music

At Verbatim success came quickly, and Bate gives full credit to his research team. The programme has been running for only 16 months, and there have never been more than nine people on it. "The team worked very well together, and everything went right," says Bate. The success crowns a career which began in Sheffield, where Bate read physics and obtained his Ph.D. Four years with the Royal Naval Scientific Service followed, and he then went to the University of British Columbia, intending to stay for three years.

Unlike Britain's brain-drain scientists, Bate expected that before long he would come home again. He recalls: "In

1959 I joined IBM for three years to find out what industrial research was all about. It turned out I was a slow learner, because I stayed with IBM for 19 years."

It was not until 1977 that Bate and his wife realized they were probably in the United States for good, and took American citizenship.

Geoffrey Bate retains a quiet English manner (and an English accent), but he is clearly delighted at the optical recording achievement.

"After so many miserable failures," he says, "you think it will never happen. It's wonderful when you realize that not only have you done it, but you've it before your competition."

'I joined to learn industrial research'

Verbatim's erasable disc was one of the stars at the National Computer Conference in Chicago in July, where a laboratory prototype was demonstrated. But the technology will be turned into a product within two years.

By 1987 Bate reckons Verbatim will be turning out 100,000 drives a year, selling them to computer manufacturers for about \$300 each. The annual output of discs will be one or two million, and they will cost \$30-35.

"We are specifically aiming at the low end of the computer spectrum, to serve the serious user of the personal computer," Bate explains.

But as Verbatim's senior vice-president for research and development, Geoffrey Bate's thoughts are already ranging beyond the immediate applications. The same technology, he says, could be used to record music, cramming two hours of high-quality stereo on to the 3 1/2 in disc.

"You may not even go to a store to buy records," he speculates. "You would order by telephone, dialling in your credit card number. The bits start flowing over the telephone wires or a satellite link, and you feed them to your optional disc recorder."



First in the race: Geoffrey Bate, optical storage disc designer

Opening the electronic book

By R. F. Glynn-Jones

The personal computer, born in its present form eight years ago, has been the most rapidly spreading technology with a faster penetration than television. But many different developments seem to be heading towards what could be described as the "electronic book."

The book has been the main means of storing and retrieving information for 2000 years and has changed little in that time. The electronic book, by contrast, can store information equivalent to many hundreds of books, and enables it to be searched, sorted, analysed, interpreted, compared and used to an unparalleled degree - the beginning of a new era for mankind.

What are these developments that are leading to the electronic book? In hardware there are new workstations that are likely to have more appeal for executives, such as computerized telephones - voice/data terminals.

There are more powerful micro-processors, laser printers and optical discs, small discs which can store the equivalent of 2,000 books.

In software, text storage and retrieval were until recently the prerogative of large companies. Storing large quantities of text for retrieval by many users required huge storage facilities and powerful processing, which was available on large com-

puters only. New technology is now bringing this facility to small units.

Information scientists may still be needed to set up systems, but the emphasis is on new software, most of which is being written for the microcomputer, is on user friendliness.

Most information is expressed in sentences and the computer cannot yet understand complex sentences. However, the knowledge base in expert systems uses sentences, although simple ones.

'It will reach a wider audience'

Interactive video illustrates how information banks can be used. There is only one way to use the conventional book and that is to read it. The electronic book, however, allows us to view static and moving pictures, to listen to voice; to select subjects; to ask questions; to ask for explanations; to analyse; and to play back.

It has the potential for reaching a much wider audience and offers new methods of helping people to acquire more skills.

A mature user of the personal computer, and of the spreadsheet and other programs that go with it, becomes more aware of his other information needs. This is often interpreted as meaning that the user needs

access to corporate databases. But these constitute only a small proportion of the user's needs.

There is a growing demand for "strategic information", including the type of soft information described above. Much work has been done in analysing information flow and surveys show that about 65 per cent of information is unique to the work group, 25 per cent to the individual, and the remaining 10 per cent to corporate or external sources.

Personal computers supply the personal needs, mainframes or on-line information services the external need. The huge untapped need is for group or departmental information and this is where the electronic book belongs.

Most of us are part of a work group and it seems natural that each group should create and maintain its own electronic book - perhaps a branch of nuclear physics, 17th century British history, international marine law, paediatrics, or one of many departments in a manufacturing company, local authority or professional services firm.

Only the work group can create the electronic book because only the work group possesses the relevant information. Surely every manager must sooner or later be responsible for his or her group's electronic book.

Lotus continues to blossom

COMPUTER BRIEFING

The Lotus Development Corporation has produced a new version of its 1-2-3 financial spreadsheet - the most popular package for personal computers. Though imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery the ability of Lotus to get nearly a million users of 1-2-3 has recently spawned a number of similar but cheaper clones of the product by competitors.

One Californian company, Paperback Software, is promising a program that has all the features of the current 1-2-3 but for less than a £100 - less than a third of the price Lotus charges. Some analysts were expecting Lotus to have to cut prices, but instead it is trying to run for cover in what it hopes will be the safety of the corporate market by producing its new version with a much larger spreadsheet, designed to take advantage of the more powerful facilities of the larger personal computers being ordered by many corporations.

No UK price has been announced but in America the new version will cost \$495 - the same as the current version. Current owners of 1-2-3 will be able to trade up to the new version for \$150.

Analysts believe the move is a good one pointing out that even if only 10 per cent of current users decide to trade up it will give Lotus a revenue of \$3 1/2 million. But the new product could hurt sales of another Lotus product, Symphony, which includes word processing and communications though many users bought it because of a bigger spreadsheet.

Japan hits back

Japanese semiconductor makers have hit back at American allegations that they are unfairly keeping US manufacturers out of the Japanese market. A Japanese delegation is currently in Washington to file a counter-petition refuting charges that they allow sales of US-made semiconductors only at a time of collaborative shortage, restricting the US to 10 per cent of the Japanese market.

The Japanese argue that the US market share is closer to 18 per cent if products made in Japan by US producers are included.

IBM sign

IBM has signed an agreement with American software firm Microsoft to jointly develop operating systems for IBM's personal computers. Microsoft has long had a loose alliance with the computer giant following IBM's decision to choose Microsoft's MS-DOS operating system for its microcomputers five years ago. The new agreement will allow Microsoft to sell the results of this collaboration to other computer manufacturers, which should enable IBM's competitors, where

they want, to make their products compatible with IBM micros.

The agreement is also likely to include joint work on programming languages, networks and "windowing", a technique that allows several tasks to appear on a screen at the same time. Since its original deal with IBM, Microsoft has become a dominant force in the software business and the new contract represents a major blow for its chief competitor Digital Research.



Though no figure has been put on the value of the contract it is likely to be worth tens of millions of dollars and is Microsoft's largest contract.

Helping disabled

The ways in which recent developments in microtechnology have provided disabled people with a new range of activities are to be the subject of a new six-part BBC series. The first programme, to be shown on BBC2 at 7.45 on Friday, features Christopher, a bright, but severely physically handicapped child of four, who with the aid of a microcomputer can learn, communicate and get about by himself.

All in hand

Using computers to identify fingerprints and handwriting is becoming commonplace in Japan's technology-conscious police force. The fingerprint system is particularly useful when investigators find only a partial print. Previously only the centre of a print could be used for identification but new methods now

allow any part of a print to be analysed automatically, compared with records and identified. Scotland Yard is putting in a system which, when fully operational, will hold 80,000 fingerprints.

Training boom

One of the most striking differences between offices in the USA and those in the UK is the number of personal computers on the desks of senior management. They are still something of a rarity in many UK industries but the situation could be changing according to a survey by the Computing Services Association, which sees management training in computers as the latest growing

sector in the computer training field.

In 1984 growth was 61 per cent compared with an overall growth rate of 24 per cent. But the boom in general micro-training, which grew by 270 per cent in 1983, has slowed to a growth of 35 per cent.

Car computers

Disappointment is on the way for those who think that a telephone in the car is the ultimate in one-upmanship. London-based Transam Microsystems expect to have a BT licensed modem available by the end of September that will connect portable computers to a car phone and ensure that the busy executive can maintain constant computer communications while on the move.

The problem with using computers over the cellular radio network is that there is a quarter-second delay as a vehicle moves between the different cells of a network.

Transam M1 modem includes error checking that can cope with this gap. Procs is expected to be around £400.

01-837 1350 COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS

Systems Analyst Programmer

RPG III IBM SYSTEM 38
SALARY NEGOTIABLE

Postal Investment Management Limited are investment managers for the British Telecom and the Post Office staff superannuation schemes with investments totalling some £9 billion.

In order to expand our systems development we are now seeking a systems analyst programmer with sound experience of RPG III applied to an IBM system 38.

Acting as number two within the department you will be responsible for determining user requirements, preparing program specifications, monitoring and controlling the quality of work output and providing technical assistance and training to both users and trainees.

The ideal candidate must be self-motivated, have the ability to follow projects from feasibility through to implementation and be able to keep abreast of new software development in order to enhance the facilities available to Postal.

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Foster Wheeler is one of the world's largest and most successful process plant design and construction contractors, providing international expertise across a wide spectrum of specialist activities. Behind this is the backup of some of the most sophisticated support systems including substantial computer facilities.

Our Systems and Computer Applications Department at Reading now provides computer services to Foster Wheeler group companies and offices throughout the UK and consequently needs to expand.

The major data processing systems are run on an IBM 4341 accessed from an extensive network of VDU's and RJE work stations. The central processing unit will be upgraded to a 4381 by the end of September. Developments are based on MVS/TSO, ISPF, E1, TOTAL, MANTIS, EZT/ET+, ARTEMIS and DYNAPLAN. Computer Aided Drafting applications use INTEGRAPH software running on DEC VAX 11/780 and 11/785 machines.

Our Applications service all aspects of the business including Payroll, Financial Accounting, Technical Design, Materials Management, Project Control and Technical Information Handling.

We are now looking for additional Programmers, Analyst/Programmers and an ARTEMIS Applications Analyst to strengthen the existing teams.

The former will have numerate degrees and experience of IBM mainframe operating under MVS, while the Applications Analyst will have a sound working knowledge of ARTEMIS or an alternative Project-Planning System.

In all cases, a high degree of initiative is essential, together with well-developed communication skills and the ability to handle users effectively. All posts also carry a high level of responsibility with the opportunity to make personal contributions to all phases of computer development: from investigation of scope - through problem/solution definition - to implementation and user training.

Foster Wheeler's commitment to the continuing development of computer applications is certain to provide all the career scope you've ever wanted. Prospects of advancement are good and the salaries are excellent. A generous benefits package in-line with most major international organisations includes pension scheme, life assurance cover and an active sports and social club.

For further information about these, exciting opportunities in our expanding computer environment telephone Rosemary Manning on Reading (0734) 585211, or write to her at Foster Wheeler Energy Limited, Foster Wheeler House, Station Road, Reading RG1 1LX.

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Find out more in complete confidence and without obligation by phoning Fred Jeffries, C.Eng, M.I.E.E., on 0442 47311, during office hours or our duty Consultant on (0442) 212550 evenings and weekends; alternatively write to him at the address below.



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SYSTEMS CONTROL ANALYST

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To help maintain our high standards, we are now looking to recruit a Systems Control Analyst, to work within a new group being established within our Production Operations team. As part of this small group, you will be responsible for process-related computer systems. The group provides systems control support for Production, Maintenance, Construction and Process Engineering as well as Platform personnel.

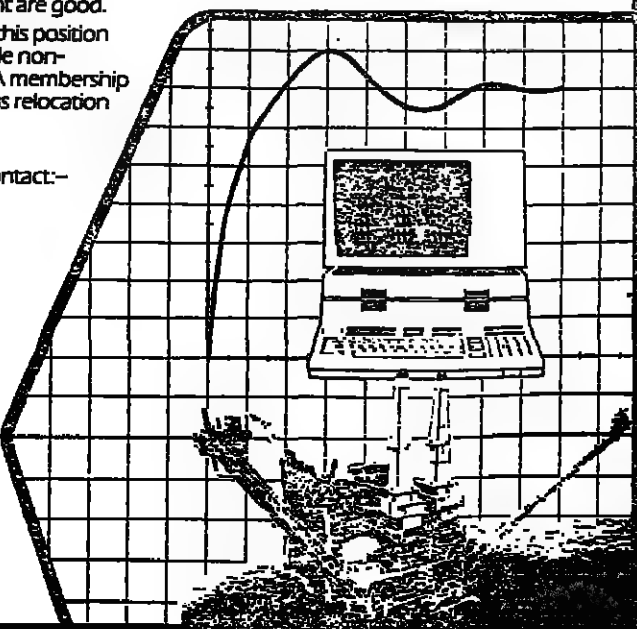
Primary function will be to provide information for engineering, process control and management, as well as implement new controls and modifications to the present computer systems, which include a Honeywell TDC 2000, Honeywell 4500, HP 1000 and Modicon P190. With occasional offshore work envisaged during the installation and testing of new systems, you will be involved in projects from start to finish.

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Ideal candidates will be aged 23 - 35, be educated to degree level and have between 2 - 5 years' experience in programming systems analysis within an engineering, technical or process environment. Knowledge of Fortran is essential. Prospects for advancement are good.

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For an application form please contact:- Alfie Smith, Employee Relations Representative, Marathon Oil U.K. Ltd., Marathon House, Rubislaw Hill, Anderson Drive, Aberdeen AB2 4AZ. Tel: (0224) 576133

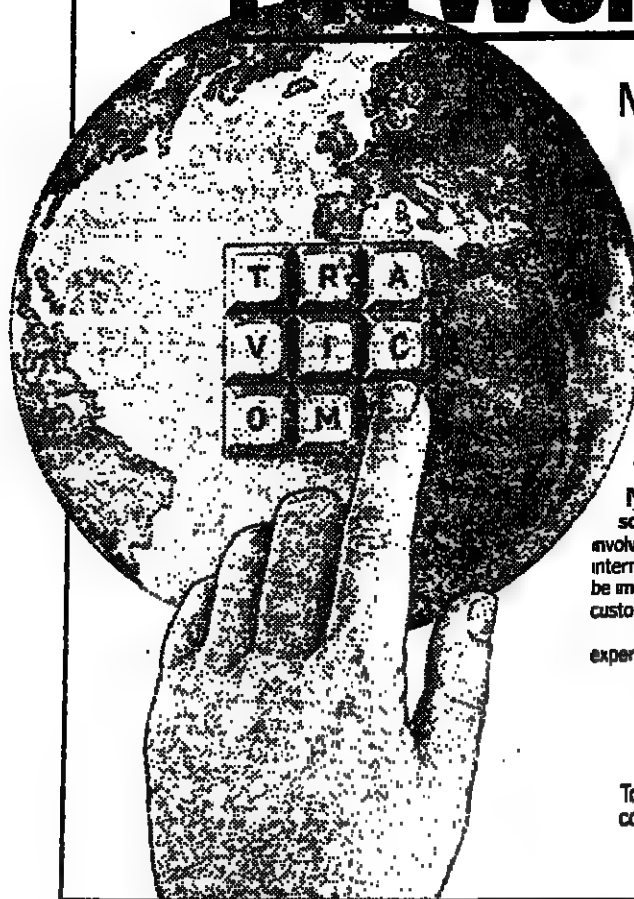


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£11,000-£20,000 + Benefits

We have a wide range of current requirements for people with one or more of the following: MVS DOS/VSE, VM/CMS/SP, ACT/VTAM, NCP, SNA, CICS, IMS, ASSEMBLER. Positions exist from Junior (retraining for ASSEMBLER Applications Programmers) to Senior Management/Consultant level. 6 positions currently exist for DOS/VSE/VM Programmers to retrain MVS. call Bruce Harrington

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Our large client base, which includes Manufacturers, Banks, Software Houses and Financial Institutions, requires staff at ALL LEVELS. Experience of PROLOG, GENASYS or TRANSACT is advantageous for some clients, while others require experience of IMAGE, VIEW, QUERY MM/3000 or POWERHOUSE. At Junior level, 6 months experience of COBOL on HP 3000 is the minimum requirement and at Senior Analyst/Programmer level, 4 to 5 years experience including 2 years on HP kit. call Jim Christie

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MVS or DOS EXPERIENCE (upwards of 18 months' experience) on any IBM hardware is currently sought by many installations who offer a wide variety of benefits and training in analysis and online techniques. CICS/DL-1, IMS, IMS, MANTIS, FOCUS and any other 4th generation languages are of particular interest although many installations are seeking the individuals who will "fit in" rather than start with technical experience. call Bruce Harrington

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£10,000-£18,000

Do you have at least 18 months COBOL on ICL machines? We have several clients (including Banks, Commodities Brokers and Insurance Companies) requiring experienced personnel ranging from Programmer level up to Chief Development Analyst. Our clients are particularly interested in good IMS and TPMS experience on 2900 hardware. We also have several openings at various levels for ME29 Programmers and Analysts/Programmers. call Jim Christie

PL-1 and/or ASSEMBLER

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Programmers and Analysts/Programmers from Junior to Senior levels are sought by our large Client base which includes Banking, Insurance, Manufacturing, Distribution and other Commercial companies throughout London and the Home Counties. Positions exist from 12 months PL-1 or ASSEMBLER on either DOS or MVS systems and training in online/database systems (CICS/DL-1, IMS DB/DC, ADABAS/NATURAL, ADS online) and 4th Generation languages will be provided. call Bruce Harrington

ANY COBOL

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We have numerous vacancies for Programmers and Analysts/Programmers with from 12 months or more COBOL on any mini or mainframe computers. Retraining onto new hardware exists for many companies utilising BURROUGHS, HONEYWELL, UNIVAC, NCR mainframes and DATA GENERAL, WANG, TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, PRIME, TANDDEM minis. call Jim Christie

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Experience: Two years + on any ICL hardware for all positions. Analysts not necessarily from a programming background. Programmers with experience in any of the following: Cobol, Plan, Pascal. Project Leaders with proven management skills.
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C LONDON, TO £21,000

Company: Manufacturer of fault tolerant systems with a world wide user base.
Position: Analyst to provide pre/post sales support, design, systems engineering, general advice and consultancy for clients.
Experience: Several years in computing, ideally having worked from Programmer through to Systems Analyst. Strong business/commercial awareness with knowledge of on-line transaction processing, system sizing and databases. Any hardware experience.
General: A variety of work and opportunity for career progression. A company car is part of the package. Ref TS11170

GRADUATE IBM COBOL/PL-1 PROGRAMMERS & ANALYST PROGRAMMERS

C LONDON TO £15,000

Company: Progressive well respected systems house developing packages and providing complete bespoke systems.
Position: Programmers and Analysts/Programmers to work on systems development (package or bespoke) for IBM mainframe users utilising COBOL or PL-1, 4th Generation Languages, CICS, IMS and Databases.
Experience: Eighteen months IBM COBOL, PL-1 (DOS or MVS) any experience of design, analysis, on-line database or 4th Generation Languages all useful but full training given.
General: Excellent opportunity for career progression moving toward product consultant. Extensive training will be provided. Secure and well established organisation. Ref TS 11715

MIDOX £11-20K

Company: One of the world's largest systems consultancies showing consistent growth and offering stability and career opportunities in line with ability.
Position: Programming and analysis in a full role from initial conception through all stages to implementation. Applications encompass maintaining commercial and financial areas.
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Company: International systems house involved in development of IBM System 36/38 packages.
Positions: Programmers, Analyst Programmers and Project Leaders, to play an active part in package development with some client support. Applications are of a banking, insurance and financial nature.
Experience: Eighteen months plus RPG II or III for Programmers and Analysts/Programmers (user liaison and design, where applicable). Main/Project Management of system 36/38 based projects for senior positions. Knowledge of financial areas a plus, but not a prerequisite.
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£20-£25K

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This will be a senior appointment and requires a mature professional with a successful record of project management in a reputable organisation, ideally involving on-line database systems. A degree or professional qualification is expected.

The post will be based in the Midlands, with commitments in London, Birmingham, Oxford and Nottingham.

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A brief look at this table should enable you to quickly identify your area of experience. It will also show clearly the level of salary you can reasonably expect. Whilst we accept that money isn't everything, it is certainly important to feel that you are being fairly rewarded.

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JOB TITLE	EXPERIENCE REQUIRED	SALARY RANGE
Programmer, Programmer Analysts	Languages: RPG II, RPG III, COBOL, FORTRAN, BASIC, ASSEMBLER, PL/I, PASCAL, C, DLI, CORAL, Hercules IBM, DEC, VAX, DATA GENERAL, BURROUGHS, UNIVAC, PRIME, WANG.	£8,000 to £13,000
Software Engineers	Microprocessors, Data Communications, Networking, Telecommunications, ATE, Realtime, Robotics, Process Control, Simulation, Telephony, Defence.	£9,000 to £18,000
Systems Programmers	Systems Programming on IBM/1030/DEC Hardware	£10,000 to £17,000
Analyst, Programmer, Systems Analysts, Support Consultants, Project Managers	CICS, Commercial, Financial, Stock Control, Production Control, Database, Insurance, Communications, Networking.	£10,000 to £20,000
UNIX Professionals	From 12 months' experience on any hardware.	£9,000 to £18,000

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SENIOR PROG £10 - £13,000
Good knowledge of RPG II preferably on IBM mainframe. Knowledge of COBOL and CICS an advantage. REF 1060

SYSTEMS ANALYST £12 - £15,000
4-5 years broad background in programming & systems analysis, pref. in a financial env. Knowledge of STRUCTURED ANALYSIS and DESIGN techniques required. REF 1061

SENIOR PROGRAMMER £10 - £13,000
Up to 7 yrs experience of COBOL on ICL with DNE or VNE. DDS/IDMS/TPMS would be useful. Company is relocating in October. REF 1064

SYSTEMS ANALYSTS £10 - £13,000
1-4 years experience in either Insurance or Financial or Commercial fields on ICL with VME/DDS/IDMS/TPMS using COBOL. REF 1066

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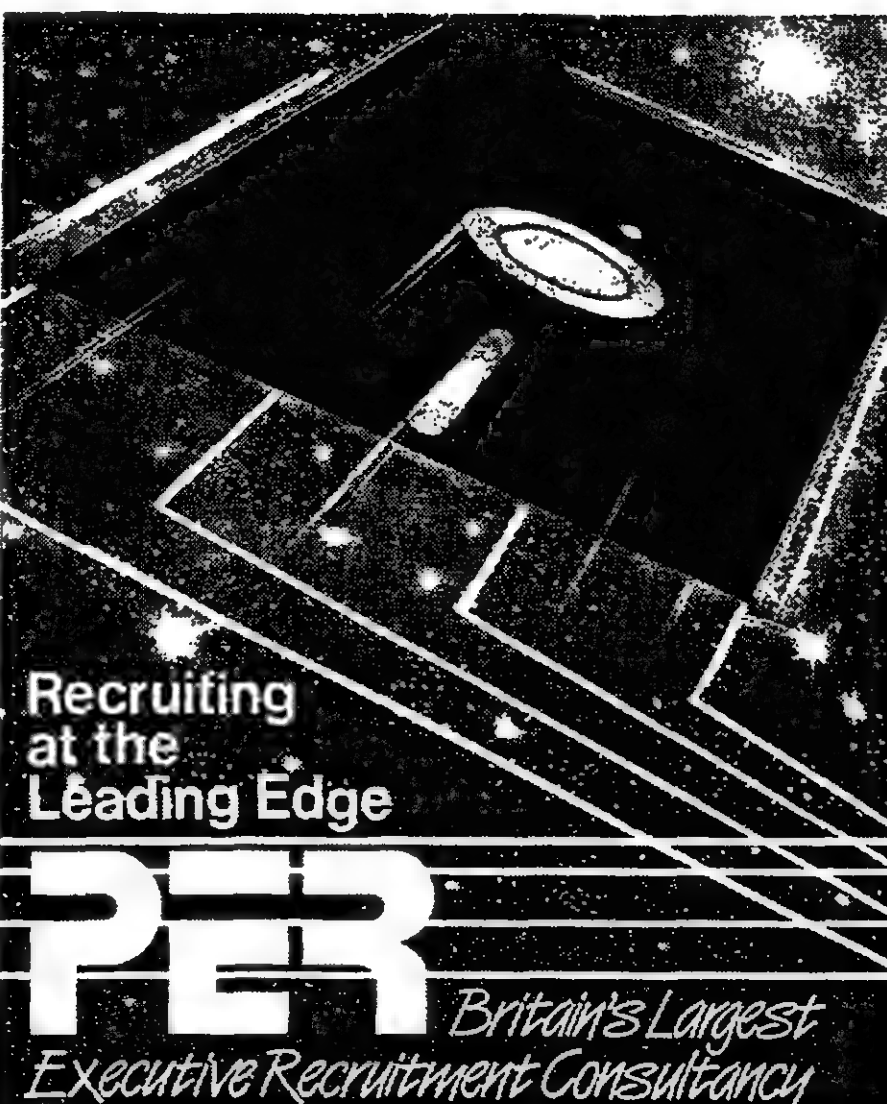
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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The uses and abuses of public borrowing

Economists are buzzing like flies round a deceptively simple question: how much should governments borrow? Assuming that you are feeling ready to tackle anything after Bank Holiday, here is a taste of today's most heated economic argument.

For nearly 10 years, since the International Monetary Fund got to grips with the British Government's deficit, targets for the public sector borrowing requirement have been central to policy making. But the PSBR has been over-used, for extra purposes to which it is quite unsuited: as an indirect control on public spending or a surrogate for monetary policy. These have inevitably brought it under fire. For the PSBR only tells us how much the Government is borrowing; it does not tell us either why, or with what results.

Governments borrow when they are not raising enough tax to cover their spending. Borrowing to build up assets which will generate income or reduce spending is very different from borrowing to meet day-to-day bills. Hence the first wave of criticism demanded separation of the Government's current and capital balances.

There is a lot of sense in this approach, which has grown up into a case for something resembling a proper balance sheet for the public sector. It would spotlight such tricks as a reduction in public borrowing achieved merely by flogging off public assets, milking nationalised industries or squeezing out public investment. But it offers more in the way of aids to understanding than reliable policy targets. A government which sought merely to balance its budget on current account might too easily stuff doubtful projects under the line, one which sought merely to maintain the "net worth" of the public sector would be embroiled in intolerable definitional difficulties, such as the valuation of the Government's herd of white elephants.

It is, however, not only the spending side of government accounts that needs to be illuminated. Altering tax rates has its costs in economic inefficiency, thus it may well make sense to borrow to fill in a temporary shortage. This argument underpins the demand for policy to be tuned to a "cyclically-adjusted" budget balance, which has been persistently advanced to justify higher borrowing during the latest recession. Its proponents were less keen to recognize its other implication: that borrowing should be kept unusually low during temporary tax windfalls, as from the North Sea.

Budget deficits adjusted in this way, too, depend on so many hypothetical calculations that they would be too difficult to set up as policy targets. But it is worth noting that some cyclical fluctuations were allowed for even in the Thatcher Government's strategy for reducing the PSBR. We hear less of them now that the economy is growing above its trend rate, because a "cyclical adjustment" to the PSBR is now embarrassingly likely to show it has been going up, not down.

The pursuit of a stable "cyclically-adjusted" deficit would be based on the strictly neutral desire to interfere with the long-term structure of taxation (and spending) as little as possible: it is not at all the same thing as deliberate "counter-cyclical" refutation. That takes us beyond analysis of the causes of public borrowing to its consequences for the whole economy, and here, too, a new argument is raging.

All through the recession, arguments about the consequences of public borrow-

ing focused on short-term effects on monetary growth, demand, output and inflation. There is now a longer-term preoccupation with the effect on the stock of national debt.

Latin American examples make it easy to see how countries can borrow their way into a "debt trap" in which total borrowings rise much faster than national incomes. In most industrial countries, too, public debt has been rising in relation to national income. Hence the call for a new target for policy: a stable debt-income ratio.

There is enthusiasm for this notion from left as well as right. This, sadly, is not so much evidence of a new consensus as a reflection of the variety of policies that could be pursued under this same banner. A stable debt-income ratio is not necessarily a very tough target. In Britain, unlike almost every other major economy, the ratio has fallen sharply since the 1950s. The easiest way to bring it down is the method used by Britain in the 1970s: to default savers by allowing inflation to erode the real value of public debt.

It is a poor sort of target that positively encourages governments to keep inflation alive. But even if it were buttressed with a commitment to end inflation, the aim of a stable debt-income ratio does not provide a simple guide to policy. A little arithmetic is required, for which the London Business School usefully provides the numbers.

Let us start by setting the condition that we aim to end inflation. This means we are trying to slow the annual increase in national income from today's 9 per cent or so to the 2 per cent or so which we reckon to be the rate at which we can regularly increase real national output.

With only 2 per cent growth in national income, borrowing at our present rate would raise the debt-income ratio - but not infinitely. The LBS figures suggest that if government borrowing persisted at 2 per cent of national (the official aim for 1985-86) the debt level would stabilize roughly equal to national income. If we reduced borrowing to 1 per cent of national income, (roughly £3.4 billion in today's money) debt would stabilize much where it is today, at about half the level of national income.

The choice of a sensible level takes us straight back into the entrails of public accounts. The critical question is whether interest payments threaten either to push tax rates up to a point where they damage our productive capacity, or to erode those public services that are the reason for raising revenue in the first place, or to push borrowing up steadily as a share of national income (thus destabilizing everything). This nightmare does not mean that governments should forswear all borrowing, because the point of safety, also depends on interest rates.

The less governments borrow, the more cheaply they are likely to be able to do so. At a certain point the cost should be sufficiently low for a steady rate of borrowing to cover interest payments on existing debt and a bit of other public spending as well. At this point, borrowing will serve to reduce taxation without sowing the seeds of a debt crisis. The trouble is that this optimum is likely to be much easier to find in fast-growing economies where governments can borrow cheap (like Japan) than in sluggish economies where money is dear (like most of Europe). It is not a debate which, in Britain, is anywhere near a comfortable conclusion.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

BP poised to sell more shares in America and Japan

By Ian Griffiths

British Petroleum is planning a drive to increase the ownership of its shares in the United States and is considering applying for a quotation on the Tokyo stock exchange.

The company has, in the past few years, largely ignored the attractions of wider international share ownership. At present less than 2 per cent of its share capital is held in the US in the form of American depositary receipts.

BP's plans include investor road shows, more American visits by senior management, and greater emphasis on presenting the company's results in the US. However, a Tokyo listing is still some way off.

BP has seen the benefits which Shell and ICI have received by generating interest in their stock in the US and it now believes it should make an increased attempt to improve its investor profile.

Gentle pressure has been put on the company by market men in the US and Japan. The New York and Tokyo markets want to see a much greater presence from BP.

The Japanese authorities have relaxed reporting requirements and other regulations, which means that the cost of obtaining and maintaining a

Tokyo listing is much less daunting than previously.

The benefits of an international portfolio of shareholders are considerable. BP would obtain access to a much wider source of finance. There would also be commercial and trading benefits through the added publicity and interest generated by increased share ownership.

The BP share price would

also benefit from the higher level of world demand as was demonstrated by British Telecom when it was privatized last year.

However, BP is conscious of the growing internationalization of the capital markets and the potential impact on the stock market of the "Big Bang" next year. Many observers believe that this will create an elite of international shares which will

provide the core of a global stock market.

BP might reasonably be expected to be a member of that elite, but it would be hard to gain acceptance without a greater international share ownership. Aside from the American depositary receipts BP is quoted on European markets, but there is little doubt that the main market for its shares is still in Britain.

The company demonstrated its willingness to take a more positive role in world financial markets when it announced in January that it was setting up its own in-house bank to handle the group's finances.

On Thursday, the company reports its interim figures for the half-year to June. There has been a wide spread of forecasts from the analysts for the second-quarter figures, although there has been some upgrading and it is now thought by some in the City that BP will report profits at the top end of expectations.

BP last night was reluctant to comment, but a spokesman said: "I cannot deny we are interested in expanding our shareholder base particularly in the US which we regard as a priority area."

Tokyo securities licence for Kleinwort 'soon'

Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, looks set to enter the Japanese securities market at the end of next month, according to sources in Tokyo. Unconfirmed reports said the Japanese finance ministry was on the verge of granting the securities licence which the bank applied for last November.

Since then Kleinwort has been caught up in the political wrangle between the Japanese and British Governments over Japanese securities houses being granted banking licences in Britain, and British banks

being allowed to enter the Japanese securities market.

Now Tokyo is expected to give Kleinwort its licence before a financial meeting of the two governments in the middle of October.

Kleinwort Benson is already very active in the Japanese corporate field and has a large investment in the country. It took over 20 staff in Tokyo employed by Grieson Grant on acquiring a 29.9 per cent stake in the stockbroker firm prior to a full takeover with the "Big Bang" on the Stock Exchange.

Warner sells stake in TV channels

Viacom International and Warner Communications have reached an agreement which allows Viacom to acquire 10 per cent of the voting stock in Showtime, the film television channel. Maxwell Newton

Warner will sell its 31 per cent interest in Showtime to Viacom, and Warner-Amex Cable will sell Warner's 33 per cent in MTV as well as its 19 per cent interest in Showtime.

Viacom is to pay \$300 million in cash to Warner. Viacom will also issue warrants to acquire 1.6 million shares in Viacom at \$70 a share. Warner will buy additional warrants at \$9.75 a warrant to acquire an additional 625,000 Viacom shares at \$75 a share. Viacom has announced it will also acquire for cash the third of MTV held by the public at \$33.90 a share.

The Forstmann Little proposed leveraged buyout of Warner's interests in MTV has thus collapsed.

Mr Carl Icahn has raised his stake in Trans World Airlines (TWA) to 50.3 per cent, giving



Carl Icahn: victory in battle for TWA

him control of America's fourth biggest airline.

Sources said that lawyers were writing a tentative agreement that would dissolve a merger between TWA and Texas Air Corporation. Mr Icahn's main rival in the bitter fight for TWA.

Many investment bankers are convinced that Mr Icahn will soon sell all or part of TWA. Mr Icahn is offering \$24 a share in cash and preferred for the shares he does not already own. Analysts estimate that this will cost him \$650 million.

US shoe quotas unlikely

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Reagan will probably reject calls by American shoe manufacturers for import restrictions or tariffs to protect them from foreign competition.

The President said in a radio interview that he opposed protectionism. His decision is expected to be announced by Friday. Administration sources said other methods were under consideration to help the beleaguered US shoe industry.

American shoe manufacturers have shut down two-thirds of their plants in the past 15 years. Imports mainly from Brazil, Italy, Spain, South Korea and Taiwan, now account for 76 per cent of the

US shoe market, compared with 23 per cent in 1968, according to government statistics.

A presidential decision against import restrictions is likely to provoke sharp reaction in Congress and could boost pressure for shoe quota legislation.

The US international trade commission recently recommended the imposition of quotas to limit imports to 60 per cent of the market for five years.

But shoe retailers calculated that the restrictions would cost the public \$3 billion (£2.4 billion) a year, and fall hardest on low-income people.

Henkel set for market

Bonn (Reuters) - Henkel, the family-owned West German chemicals group best known as the originator of Persil washing powder, is to offer shares to the public for the first time in its 109-year history.

The country's fourth biggest chemicals producer, Henkel will sell 1.5 million shares on Germany's stock exchanges in early October. Banking sources estimate that the issue could

raise almost DM400 million (£104 million) in new capital.

The company, set up in 1876 by Herr Fritz Henkel, achieved a breakthrough in 1907 when the founder's son, Hugo, developed Persil, said by the company to be the first powder that could wash clothes clean without housewives having to scrub out the dirt. Persil remains the market leader in West Germany today.

Shares in retreat

New York (Reuters) - Shares were retreating at midmorning yesterday as investors became pessimistic on the prospects for a quick improvement in the economy.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 2.57 to 1,315.75. Declines outnumbered advances by seven to four on slow turnover of 15.84 million shares.

Western Air Lines led the active shares, up 1/4 to 7 1/2. Nucor Petroleum, which has announced a reorganization into a limited partnership, was up 1 1/2 to 16 1/2.

SCM Corp., which has rejected a \$60 (£42.90) a share bid from Britain's Hanson Trust, was up 1/4 to 67 1/2.

US machine tool orders fell by 1.6 per cent in July to \$201 million (£144 million) from a revised \$235.2 million in June. The National Machine Tool Builders' Association said in Washington.

The July orders were down 35.9 per cent on the \$313.4 billion in July last year. The backlog of orders in July was \$1,937.9 million, up 0.6 per cent over the June backlog and 28.6 per cent above July last year.

Total shipments of machine tools fell 20.7 per cent last month to \$189.6 million, from a revised \$239 million in June and were 2.1 per cent below the \$193.8 million in July last year.

MARKET SUMMARY

GOLD

London fixing: am \$333.60pm \$334.85
close \$333.00-\$333.50
(\$237.50-238)
New York: Comex \$336.15

CURRENCIES

London: £ 1.3987 (-0.004)
DM 3.8553 (-0.0079)
Sfr 1.724 (-0.004)
FF 11.724 (-0.0474)
Yen 330.36 (-0.57)
Index: 82.2 (unchanged).

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 11 1/2%
Federal Funds 7 1/2%
3-month eligible bills 11 1/2-11 3/4%
buying rate:
Prime Rate 9.50%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.07-7.05%
Long bond 10.01-10.1%

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord. 10,991.4 (-16.7)
FT All Share 6,835.04 (+7.04)
FT Govt Securities 83.70 (unch)
FT-SE 100 1,315.5 (+14.4)
Datastream USM 104.40 (+1.31)
New York: Dow Jones 1,315.75 (-2.57)
Nikkei Dow 12,851.77 (-38.2)
Amsterdam 2,174 (+0.1)
Sydney: AO 942.0 (-3.2)
Frankfurt: Commerzbank 1428.8 (+13.8)
General: 338.06 (+3.19)
Paris: CAC 218.8 (-0.4)
Zurich: SKA General 402.70 (-0.4)

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US NOTEBOOK

Few choices left for Volcker

There is a growing conviction that the "surge of growth" promised by Mr Paul Volcker for the second half of 1985 is not going to happen. He has already been criticized by Mr Preston Martin in the Federal Open Market Committee, for having held money growth down too tightly. Mr Volcker unwisely forecast 4 per cent real GNP growth for the second half and now it is apparent that nothing like that is going to occur.

This has been the long slump - and it has coincided with Mr Volcker's six-year tenure at the Fed. Under his reign the US has had the longest period of sub-average economic growth in the past 60 years. It has had great volatility, great uncertainty, and great economic failure in terms of economic growth. Interest rates have reached unprecedented heights.

Now, at the end of his reign, there is the threat of embarrassment and further failure.

What can Mr Volcker do to avoid the humiliation that is staring him in the face? He can hardly do anything to stimulate the growth of money M1, as that aggregate has risen strongly since October.

For nearly three months, the adjusted monetary base (currency plus banks' reserves) has been relatively flat, indicating a more restrictive strand of monetary policy than has been indicated by the convolutions of money M1. And the federal funds rate has in recent weeks been pushed up to well over 8 per cent.

Mr Volcker's crazy belief that he could produce 4 per cent real growth in the last half of 1985 with his existing policies has probably delayed 5% per cent forecast in going to look not merely ridiculous but downright dangerous.

Maxwell Newton

WALL STREET

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Bank loans 'threat to £M3 policy'

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

A renewed surge in bank lending may begin soon, posing problems for the Government in its efforts to rein back growth in the money supply.

Bank lending, particularly to companies, has slowed over the summer. Lending rose by £2.5 billion in April, but by the July banking month the increase was down to £1.5 billion.

Increased lending in the February, March and April banking months was associated with companies investing before the end of the fiscal year, to take account of 1984-85 capital allowances.

With that incentive out of the way, bank lending to companies has dropped. Mr Robert Thomas, of the stockbroker W. Greenwell & Co., says that bank lending may now bounce back from the summer lull, pushing up growth in the sterling M3 monetary aggregate.

Mr Ian Harwood of Rowe & Pitman, agrees. He suggests that the capital allowances effect may also come into play again.

This is because, during this fiscal year, the incentives to invest and gain the benefits of 1985-86 capital allowances will be as strong as in 1984-85.

A bank lending surge will force the authorities to continue to overfund the public sector borrowing requirement and add to the £15 billion bill mountain, to keep broad money growth near the 5 to 9 per cent sterling M3 target.

Advertising has room for growth

This summer's two leading takeover battles, for Debenhams and Arthur Bell & Sons, have reminded the stock market that we are in a consumer-led economic recovery, and that some of the biggest rewards are being reserved for those who can best anticipate and pander to the public's whims.

However, there have also been some handsome fortunes for those lesser souls who carry the message and hold the megaphone for the makers and sellers of consumer products so that they can reach their audience. These are the advertising agencies, who have bewitched not only their clients, but have at the same time bedazzled the City into rating their shares on to the sort of p/e ratio where investors should be given a box of vertigo pills with every share certificate.

The reasons are not hard to find. Despite the depressingly high level of officially recorded unemployment, the public has enough money in its pocket to make advertising worthwhile. Only last week Guinness unveiled its new £6.5 million Genius campaign to tempt more of us into sipping the dark brew.

All the signs are that consumer spending is strong, edged on in no small measure by the banks, to the point where 5.5 per cent of disposable income is being committed to paying interest charges. In the second half of 1985 the public is expected to spend 3.3 per cent more than in the corresponding period last year, and if inflation can be kept down 1986 should

to get the best value out of the budget for a campaign, and reach the target audience most economically. The creative team express the client's message in a way that will grab the public's attention without spoiling the client's image.

The emotional appeal of a successful campaign is undeniable. Low Howard-Spink Campbell-Ewald (Holdings) made its name with the claim that Heineken refreshes the parts other beers cannot reach. Boase Massimi Pollitt had a similar hit with its suggestion that lager drinkers should follow the Hofmeister bear and, latterly, "Say No To No Say" at the C.I.C.

The hard cash behind the magic is that an agency normally takes a 15 per cent commission on the money its clients spend. This makes the big campaigns highly profitable. Ogilvy Benson and Mather will collect nearly £1 million for the new Guinness campaign, and that pays the wages with plenty to spare. So good advertisements are not a bad guide to an agency's prospects, not least because they help to attract new clients and talented staff.

Geers Gross has a good creative record, with the bowler-hatted Homebridge flour graders and Planet Zannussi. But its shares have come down from 170p to 60p this year.

French Eurocom advertising group has supported the shares to the tune of amassing a 19.5 per cent stake which may at some time lead to a bid.

But word in the trade is that Mr Bob Gross, the cofounder, is having less to do with the company. The shares are a gamble on recovery/takeover; meanwhile the agencies in the group are still winning new business.

New business for one agency, often means lost business for another. That is why it is important for investors, particularly those unfamiliar with the industry, to concentrate on groups with a wide spread of clients so that no one loss can make too much impact.

For that reason, if no other, Saatchi & Saatchi is the best value in the sector at the moment. Hoare Govett gave a warning last month that earnings per share would be diluted by recent large equity issues, but Phillips & Drew hit back with a 53-page circular predicting that earnings would rise from 28.4p to 43.5p in the current year to September 30, and to 49.5p next year.

That does imply some slowdown, but P & D admits that its forecast for next year is conservative, and it takes no account of further acquisitions. The big and well-publicized gaps in its armoury are market research and financial public relations, and Saatchi has net cash of £120 million to pay for takeovers.

William Kay
City Editor

HOW THE AGENCIES COMPARE

Company	Price/Share	Dividend	P/E Ratio
Boase Massimi Pollitt	338	1.5	30.7
Burroughes	135	5.2	23.9
Dunlop	71	8.0	8.3
Low Howard-Spink	220	2.0	22.4
Saatchi & Saatchi	670	2.1	19.7
Wight Collins	348	1.2	n.a.

see another 3 per cent growth in real terms.

That is a promising background for the advertising agencies, who now find themselves fêted and consulted by everyone from the Prime Minister to the greenest businessman. Yet the proportion of gross national product spent on advertising is only half of the United States figure, suggesting that there is some way to go before the British advertising market becomes saturated.

The City, as is its wont, has run-on some way ahead of the game. It is past the first flush of its love affair with the agencies and is now beginning to discriminate among them. The table shows that wide disparities have developed among the share ratings of the fully quoted companies in the sector. There are two more on the USM: the recently floated Yellowbunnies, on a p/e ratio of 17 at 131p, and Valia Pollen, the financial agency with the exotic p/e ratio of 67.

The common factor among the more prized agencies is their high standard of media and creative work. The media teams are smart and adaptable enough

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Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Share Price	Dividend
1	Guinness	100.00	1.00
2	Scott & Son	100.00	1.00
3	Wolfe & D	100.00	1.00
4	S. A. Breweries	100.00	1.00
5	Belhaven	100.00	1.00
6	Whitbread 'A'	100.00	1.00
7	Greenall Whitley	100.00	1.00
8	Boddingtons	100.00	1.00
9	Irish Dist	100.00	1.00
10	Whitbread 'B'	100.00	1.00
11	Carlsberg (R)	100.00	1.00
12	Carlsberg (L)	100.00	1.00
13	Carlsberg (S)	100.00	1.00
14	Carlsberg (T)	100.00	1.00
15	Carlsberg (U)	100.00	1.00
16	Carlsberg (V)	100.00	1.00
17	Carlsberg (W)	100.00	1.00
18	Carlsberg (X)	100.00	1.00
19	Carlsberg (Y)	100.00	1.00
20	Carlsberg (Z)	100.00	1.00
21	Carlsberg (AA)	100.00	1.00
22	Carlsberg (AB)	100.00	1.00
23	Carlsberg (AC)	100.00	1.00
24	Carlsberg (AD)	100.00	1.00
25	Carlsberg (AE)	100.00	1.00
26	Carlsberg (AF)	100.00	1.00
27	Carlsberg (AG)	100.00	1.00
28	Carlsberg (AH)	100.00	1.00
29	Carlsberg (AI)	100.00	1.00
30	Carlsberg (AJ)	100.00	1.00
31	Carlsberg (AK)	100.00	1.00
32	Carlsberg (AL)	100.00	1.00
33	Carlsberg (AM)	100.00	1.00
34	Carlsberg (AN)	100.00	1.00
35	Carlsberg (AO)	100.00	1.00
36	Carlsberg (AP)	100.00	1.00
37	Carlsberg (AQ)	100.00	1.00
38	Carlsberg (AR)	100.00	1.00
39	Carlsberg (AS)	100.00	1.00
40	Carlsberg (AT)	100.00	1.00
41	Carlsberg (AU)	100.00	1.00
42	Carlsberg (AV)	100.00	1.00
43	Carlsberg (AW)	100.00	1.00
44	Carlsberg (AX)	100.00	1.00
45	Carlsberg (AY)	100.00	1.00
46	Carlsberg (AZ)	100.00	1.00
47	Carlsberg (BA)	100.00	1.00
48	Carlsberg (BB)	100.00	1.00
49	Carlsberg (BC)	100.00	1.00
50	Carlsberg (BD)	100.00	1.00
51	Carlsberg (BE)	100.00	1.00
52	Carlsberg (BF)	100.00	1.00
53	Carlsberg (BG)	100.00	1.00
54	Carlsberg (BH)	100.00	1.00
55	Carlsberg (BI)	100.00	1.00
56	Carlsberg (BJ)	100.00	1.00
57	Carlsberg (BK)	100.00	1.00
58	Carlsberg (BL)	100.00	1.00
59	Carlsberg (BM)	100.00	1.00
60	Carlsberg (BN)	100.00	1.00
61	Carlsberg (BO)	100.00	1.00
62	Carlsberg (BP)	100.00	1.00
63	Carlsberg (BQ)	100.00	1.00
64	Carlsberg (BR)	100.00	1.00
65	Carlsberg (BS)	100.00	1.00
66	Carlsberg (BT)	100.00	1.00
67	Carlsberg (BU)	100.00	1.00
68	Carlsberg (BV)	100.00	1.00
69	Carlsberg (BW)	100.00	1.00
70	Carlsberg (BX)	100.00	1.00
71	Carlsberg (BY)	100.00	1.00
72	Carlsberg (BZ)	100.00	1.00
73	Carlsberg (CA)	100.00	1.00
74	Carlsberg (CB)	100.00	1.00
75	Carlsberg (CC)	100.00	1.00
76	Carlsberg (CD)	100.00	1.00
77	Carlsberg (CE)	100.00	1.00
78	Carlsberg (CF)	100.00	1.00
79	Carlsberg (CG)	100.00	1.00
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92	Carlsberg (CT)	100.00	1.00
93	Carlsberg (CU)	100.00	1.00
94	Carlsberg (CV)	100.00	1.00
95	Carlsberg (CW)	100.00	1.00
96	Carlsberg (CX)	100.00	1.00
97	Carlsberg (CY)	100.00	1.00
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ATHLETICS

Budd slips in to set a world record and steal the show

By Cliff Temple

Zola Budd broke the world record for the women's 5,000 metres at Crystal Palace yesterday to the surprise of those members of the public who had settled into their seats for the first track event of the McVitie's Challenge meeting. Budd's form has been improving, but her participation in the event, decided last Wednesday following her mile race in Zurich, had been withheld to avoid anti-apartheid demonstrations.

The women's 5,000 metres is officially recognized by the International Amateur Athletic Federation for record purposes, but as it is not an Olympic event her run yesterday did not qualify her for the £50,000 offered by Mumm Champagne for the first British athlete to break a world record in Britain.

Ironically, for a meeting organised by the men's domestic governing body, the Amateur Athletic Association, as a match between England, Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, it was this woman's invitation event, originally requested by Norway's Ingrid Kristiansen, which was also inside her own mark with 14min 58.89sec, which provided the highlight.

As a competition between two world class athletes it was also far more worthy of the publicity which surrounded Budd's meeting with Mary Decker on the same track last month. After Mrs Kristiansen had led through the opening lap in a fast 70.5sec, it became clear some arrangements had been made. They led alternately for two laps apiece before Budd began to pull clear approaching 3,000 metres, where her time of 8min 50.44sec had been beyond her even for that distance earlier in the season.

Increasing her lead by 10 metres per lap, Budd finished in 14min 58.89sec, more than 10 seconds inside the existing world record set last year by Kristiansen, who was also inside her own mark with 14min 57.43sec.

"My attitude has changed somewhat now," Budd said when asked to explain her much improved recent form. Yesterday she also had the reassurance of knowing that her mother had just arrived from South Africa to watch the race.



Zola Budd after her victory yesterday

CRYSTAL PALACE RESULTS

100 METRES: 1. A. Smith (Eng), 10.36sec; 2. A. Kovacs (Hung), 10.43; 3. T. P. P. (Ire), 10.44; 4. P. R. (Ire), 10.45; 5. B. Wilson (Eng), 10.46; 6. J. T. (Ire), 10.47; 7. B. Smith (Eng), 10.48; 8. J. T. (Ire), 10.49; 9. J. T. (Ire), 10.50; 10. J. T. (Ire), 10.51; 11. J. T. (Ire), 10.52; 12. J. T. (Ire), 10.53; 13. J. T. (Ire), 10.54; 14. J. T. (Ire), 10.55; 15. J. T. (Ire), 10.56; 16. J. T. (Ire), 10.57; 17. J. T. (Ire), 10.58; 18. J. T. (Ire), 10.59; 19. J. T. (Ire), 11.00; 20. J. T. (Ire), 11.01; 21. J. T. (Ire), 11.02; 22. J. T. (Ire), 11.03; 23. J. T. (Ire), 11.04; 24. J. T. (Ire), 11.05; 25. J. T. (Ire), 11.06; 26. J. T. (Ire), 11.07; 27. J. T. (Ire), 11.08; 28. J. T. (Ire), 11.09; 29. J. T. (Ire), 11.10; 30. J. T. (Ire), 11.11; 31. J. T. (Ire), 11.12; 32. J. T. (Ire), 11.13; 33. J. T. (Ire), 11.14; 34. J. T. (Ire), 11.15; 35. J. T. (Ire), 11.16; 36. J. T. (Ire), 11.17; 37. J. T. (Ire), 11.18; 38. J. T. (Ire), 11.19; 39. J. T. (Ire), 11.20; 40. J. T. (Ire), 11.21; 41. J. T. (Ire), 11.22; 42. J. T. (Ire), 11.23; 43. J. T. (Ire), 11.24; 44. J. T. (Ire), 11.25; 45. J. T. (Ire), 11.26; 46. J. T. (Ire), 11.27; 47. J. T. (Ire), 11.28; 48. J. T. (Ire), 11.29; 49. J. T. (Ire), 11.30; 50. J. T. (Ire), 11.31; 51. J. T. (Ire), 11.32; 52. J. T. (Ire), 11.33; 53. J. T. (Ire), 11.34; 54. J. T. (Ire), 11.35; 55. J. T. (Ire), 11.36; 56. J. T. (Ire), 11.37; 57. J. T. (Ire), 11.38; 58. J. T. (Ire), 11.39; 59. J. T. (Ire), 11.40; 60. J. T. (Ire), 11.41; 61. J. T. (Ire), 11.42; 62. J. T. (Ire), 11.43; 63. J. T. (Ire), 11.44; 64. J. T. (Ire), 11.45; 65. J. T. (Ire), 11.46; 66. J. T. (Ire), 11.47; 67. J. T. (Ire), 11.48; 68. J. T. (Ire), 11.49; 69. J. T. (Ire), 11.50; 70. J. T. (Ire), 11.51; 71. J. T. (Ire), 11.52; 72. J. T. (Ire), 11.53; 73. J. T. (Ire), 11.54; 74. J. T. (Ire), 11.55; 75. J. T. (Ire), 11.56; 76. J. T. (Ire), 11.57; 77. J. T. (Ire), 11.58; 78. J. T. (Ire), 11.59; 79. J. T. (Ire), 12.00; 80. J. T. (Ire), 12.01; 81. J. T. (Ire), 12.02; 82. J. T. 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CRICKET: THE SUN SHINES AT LAST AND ENGLAND'S TEST PLAYERS GO TO TOWN

SHOW JUMPING

Yet another grand prix triumph for Skelton

By Jenny MacArthur

Nick Skelton, who was competing at Hickstead under considerable pressure having announced at the start of the meeting that he was leaving his trainer, Ted Edgar, at the end of the year, gave a timely demonstration of his outstanding talent, when winning yesterday's Silk Cut Grand Prix on the 14-year-old Everest St James. Skelton, who has now won eight Hickstead grand prix, relegated Paul Schockemöhle, the winner of Sunday's Derby, to second place on Deister, while Hendrik Snoek, one of three West Germans in the field, took third place on Palma Nova.

Skelton, who said afterwards that "you learn to ride with pressure, that is what it's all about" now looks certain to keep the ride of Mr Terry Clevermore's Skelton when he leaves Edgar in December. The next important outing for the pair is the Calvary meeting next month. After Sunday's tense Derby, the first round of yesterday's Calvary Prix seemed a low-key affair, with many of the top riders failing to reach the jump-off. John Whitaker on Hopscotch and Michael, his brother, on the low-key Skelton, collected four faults. The seven riders included Robert Smith on Nanyo Vista and Schockemöhle on Nanyo Vista, who was runner-up, and Skelton on Nanyo Vista, who was runner-up, and Skelton on Nanyo Vista, who was runner-up.

The stage was set for Skelton and Everest St James, who took up the challenge. They covered the ground in a way which made Deister look as if he had been riding the 14-year-old horse responding to every question Skelton posed. They made a daring turn into the double which had the crowd winning. "I thought I'd overdone it," he said later, but St James made the last fence, clearing the last fence, the clock recorded 42.72.

An Irish team, which included Eddie Macken and Captain Gerry Mullins, had a decisive win in the Silk Cut Challenge, a new type of competition in which teams of four tackled a course of ten fences, most of them wide enough to take all four horses at the same time.

The Silk Cut Challenge, a new type of competition in which teams of four tackled a course of ten fences, most of them wide enough to take all four horses at the same time.

The national championships, sponsored by Hickstead, were ended in Leeds yesterday in a much brighter atmosphere than expected.

Much of the optimism was generated by Katharine Reed, aged 16, of Stockton Aquatics, who retained her 400 metres freestyle title in the final session, which, with her victory in the 200 metres backstroke on Saturday, brought her a notable treble.

Miss Reed's time in the medley was 4min 53.1sec, five seconds faster than she had ever swum before. She won by 15 metres over Caynor Stanley, of Wigton, who was clearly demonstrating world-class potential.

Mark Reynolds, of Barnet Copthall, also won three titles, adding the 100 metres freestyle yesterday to the 50 and 200 metres events. Karen Mellor, of Norwich Penguins, added the 200 metres freestyle to the 400 and 800 metres titles.

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Like April, Lada Poch, skippered by the 25-year-old Frenchman, Loïc Peyron, has won his results on each stage.

The star of this 650-mile leg from Lorient was the Nigel Irens-designed Class Three catamaran, Lada Poch, which not only finished 17 minutes inside the time set by Irens' latest Class Two success Apicort, but beat three of the largest maxis into the bargain.

Like April, Lada Poch, skippered by the 25-year-old Frenchman, Loïc Peyron, has won his results on each stage.

Cordonnet has a watertight case for support at Ripon

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Luna Bid's praiseworthy victory in a competitive nursery at Newmarket on Saturday can be construed as a pointer to the chances that Cordonnet and Plaid have of winning their respective races at Ripon and Epsom today.

After showing a lot of promise in the race won by Faustus at Yarmouth in June, Cordonnet was then beaten only a length by Luna Bid at Kempton in July. In his next race Cordonnet's consistency was finally rewarded at Newmarket where he strode home three lengths in front of Top Guest, who flanked the form on Saturday there when he ran the highly-regarded Tanoos to a short head.

Against such an encouraging backdrop, Cordonnet is now napped to win the Wensley Stakes on the Yorkshire course, by beating Swift's Pal and Debbie Do, runners-up in recent well-contested nursery races, as well as Lucky So So and Mandrake Madam.

Meanwhile, at Epsom, Plaid, the winner of his only race so far at Ascot, is just preferred to the other unbeaten colts, Eve's Error, the winner of his only race at Nottingham, while that form got an undoubted boost at York last Thursday, when the runner-up, Sit This One Out, won the Convivial Stakes. I still prefer Plaid, who finished strongly at Ascot to frustrate those who had piled money on the hot favourite, Damski, in the meantime. Damski has run really well at Salisbury against Luna Bid.

The finish of the Ladies Maiden Stakes, the other race for two-year-olds on the Surrey

course, could easily be dominated by La Nureyeva and Sybil Fawley, who fillies in the field. Well though La Nureyeva has run in her races at Newbury and Newmarket, I just prefer Sybil Fawley, who ran De Stael to only half a length at Nottingham. At Windsor on Saturday, De Stael paid her victim a compliment by winning her next race by four lengths against tough opposition.

With Con Horgan's horses in such fine fettle, Sarah's Venture seems sure to go well in the Steve Donaghue Apprentice Handicap, but it still goes against the grain in my opinion to oppose the top weight Going Going, who was beaten a length by Sarah's Venture when they

clashed last at Windsor. Now, Going Going will be meeting the mare on 7lb better terms, and he looks another likely winner for his young rider, Luigi Riggio, who rode him so competently earlier in the season.

High-Tech Girl, my selection for the Paddock Handicap, has an 8lb pull for the two-lengths defeat that Zanata inflicted upon her at Newmarket on July 1. Of equal significance is the fact that High-Tech Girl will be wearing blinkers for the first time in public. I believe that they will help her to recapture the sort of form that enabled her to win the Queen Mary Stakes.

Also wearing blinkers for the first time is Kilimanjaro Bob, my selection for the First division of the River Maiden Stakes at Chepstow.

Racing results, page 23

Ch4

EPSON

Going good

Draw advantage: 51-1m, low numbers best

2.0 LADAS MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-c: £2,208; 6f) (11 runners)

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102 6 EDDY (Shah Mohamed) M Stables 8-0 W R Whitmore 7

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